

Recovering from rampage
Gays and lesbians in Roanoke
get back to living after shooting.
page 17

A referendum on Da Mayor?
A groundswell of support from
unlikely sources for Prop. L.
page 14



Heartbreaker
'The Broken Hearts Club'
writer/director Greg Berlanti.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 40 • 5 October 2000

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Looking down on Castro fair

The bare-chested guys at this house party had a field day looking down at all the boys (and girls) at last Sunday's Castro Street Fair. Organizer Steve Gaynes said that this year's event attracted about 250,000 people and raised a total of \$46,417, up 10 percent from last year. All of the money will be given to some 20 community organizations.



Back: Dittenhafer

Gays pitch for Gore in the Castro

by Cynthia Laird

It was small as rallies go, but elected gay and lesbian officials came out swinging for Democratic presidential candidate Al Gore Monday, October 2. The vice president's campaign team held the rally in front of the late Supervisor Harvey Milk's former camera shop, on Castro Street.

"It's fitting that we go back to where we started, Harvey Milk's camera shop," said Gore campaign aide Miguel Bustos.

City Treasurer Susan Leal joined San Francisco Supervisors Mark Leno and Leslie Katz at the rally, where they emphasized Gore's record on issues important to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender commu-



Jane Pflumier/Citland

Supervisor Leslie Katz, left, makes a point during a rally for Al Gore Monday in the Castro. She was joined by Supervisor Mark Leno and city Treasurer Susan Leal.

nity. But rather than just attack Gore's Republican opponent, Texas Governor George W. Bush, in this solidly Democratic city, they talked about the threat that Green Party candidate Ralph Nader is to the vice president.

Nader appeals to many progressives but has fallen in statewide and national polls to just under 5 percent.

"I've known Al Gore since 1976," Leal told the group, adding that a key to strengthening diversity is to move forward under a Gore administration. "We have a chance here to keep it moving forward," she added.

Leal said that while Gore is not perfect, he represents the best opportunity for progress when it comes to the LGBT community.

Leno was critical of Nader's infamous reference to "gonadal politics" when it comes to equal rights for gays. The supervisor said Nader is campaigning as if there is no difference between Gore and Bush, when in fact there are important distinctions. To Nader, Leno said, "the passage of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act would not matter, putting an end to 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' would not matter. Ralph Nader referred to any number of these as 'gonadal politics' and shrugs it off. We have to fight."

He added, "For those considering Ralph Nader we have to remind you there are enormous differences between the two candidates [Gore and Bush]."

Gore's campaign workers had taped large

page 23 ►

Gay freshman murdered on D.C. campus

by Bob Roehr

The secretary of the Lambda Society, a gay and lesbian campus group at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., was found dead in his dorm room last Thursday, September 28. Friends became worried when they had not seen Eric Franklin Plunkett in more than a day. They reported their concerns to a resident assistant at the nation's only university for the deaf and hard of hearing, who discovered the body.

Police are being unusually tight-lipped about the investigation. They would say only that Plunkett died of blunt force trauma to the head and neck, and indicated that they have what is believed to be the murder weapon. There were no signs to indicate forced entry or that robbery was the motive, though they would not comment on whether there was evidence of a struggle.

The police investigation is hampered by their need for sign language interpreters to interview people.

The 2,000-student Gallaudet University is less than a mile from Senate office buildings. Surrounding neighborhoods are known drug markets. The

page 17 ►

Dittenhafer, a pick for District 6

by Terry Beswick

By now, probably every politically-attuned resident of San Francisco's District 6 — the Tenderloin, part of Hayes Valley, South of Market, the northern Mission, and Treasure Island — has heard the story of how Chris Dittenhafer moved into the neighborhood.

With 17 candidates, the race is one of the most hotly contested in the city's 11 districts, and politically progressive types are making much out of the fact that the former taxi commissioner is the hand-picked candidate of Mayor Willie Brown, and had to move into the district in order to enter the fray.

"It's become in most senses of the word 'machine against machine,'" Dittenhafer said, referring to the so-called Brown machine and the competing machine headed by Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano. Brown's rival in last year's mayoral race and his opponent on many issues that come before the board.

In mid-July, Supervisor Leslie Katz announced that she was dropping out of the race. Originally appointed to the board in 1996 by Brown before she won election city-wide, Katz explained that she couldn't afford to move from her home in District 9 to avoid a battle with fellow resident and supervisor Ammiano.



District 6 candidate Chris Dittenhafer

Pick: Gennarier

Dittenhafer, who resigned from the mayoral-appointed Taxi Commission at the mayor's behest to enter the race, wouldn't say whether Brown recruited him to run or whether he volunteered to replace Katz on the mayor's slate.

But within 24 hours of the Katz bomb-

shell, Dittenhafer was in.

November 7 is the city's first election of supervisors by district in over two decades, and progressives who backed Ammiano in the mayoral race are anxious not to miss this opportunity to break the mayor's lock on the Board of Supervisors, where he can currently count on at least six votes.

"It was my decision to run, not the mayor's," stated Dittenhafer. "We spoke and it was kind of a mutual agreement at the same time ... I asked for the mayor's endorsement."

In time to meet the filing deadline, Dittenhafer and his lover of eight years had secured a lease for a new home on Langston Street in the South of Market neighborhood, giving up their rental unit in Noe Valley.

The candidate wouldn't say how much he and his partner are paying for their new digs, but he said he supports Proposition H, which would make it harder for landlords to pass along the costs of building improvement to tenants.

Dittenhafer, 35, grew up in a small town in

page 17 ►

INSIDE

BAR Talk	46
Classifieds	24
Crime & Punishment	12
GLAAD	10
Mailstrom	7
Mister Marcus	40
Obituaries	21
Open Forum	6
Our Man Friday	9
Out & About	38
OutRight	11
Personals	48
Sports Complex	22
Sweet Lips	41

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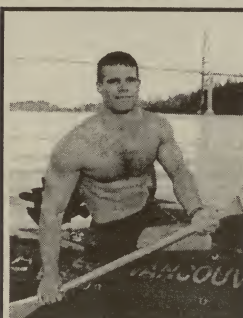
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Prison HIV advocate lands in jail after scuffle

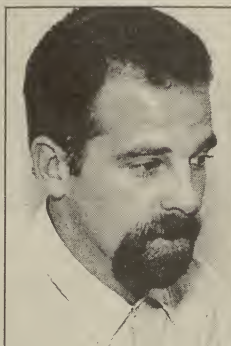
Faces third strike for falling on officer

by Cynthia Laird

Brian Patrick Carmichael, who fought the state from behind bars several years ago for improved HIV/AIDS care for California prisoners at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville, was arrested last month after a scuffle with police at San Jose International Airport that left an officer injured. Because of Carmichael's prior felony convictions, this latest charge qualifies as a third strike and he could face 35 years to life in prison if convicted, his lawyer told the Bay Area Reporter.

The openly gay Carmichael, 37, is being held on \$1 million bail at the San Jose jail, awaiting a bail reduction hearing this Tuesday, October 10.

According to public defender Mary Steel, who's the sister of the late gay civil rights attorney Tom Steel, the incident began on Labor Day weekend in Dallas, where Carmichael was boarding a flight with his extremely ill brother, who



Brian Carmichael

requires a wheelchair. Carmichael was allowed to board the plane first, then reportedly got into an argument with a juvenile passenger who wanted a seat that Carmichael was occupying. Somewhere between Dallas and San Jose, the police were notified and were waiting for Carmichael at the

airport, Steel said.

"I don't understand exactly why they were waiting," Steel said, adding that San Jose police had no jurisdiction over what allegedly happened on the runway in Dallas. She said Carmichael's arrest was related more to who he is, adding that police repeatedly asked if he was on probation or parole, which he was not.

"Brian wanted to get a bag off the plane that had his brother's medications and his stuff. The cop told an airline employee to get the bag," said Steel.

Carmichael then told the police he was going to go into the bag, and Steel said there is some discrepancy over whether the police told him not to. When Carmichael stooped down to retrieve items from the bag, two officers grabbed his wrists in a twisting motion and the three of them fell to the ground. During the fall, one of the officers sustained an injury to his wrist. And that led to the single charge against

page 23 ►

Davis gets gay man's parole order

by Ed Walsh

The parole hopes of Robert Rosenkrantz, the Southern California gay man who killed his tormentor, are now solely in the hands of Governor Gray Davis.

Last Friday, September 29, the Board of Prison Terms sent its parole order to Davis. The governor has 30 days to decide whether to block Rosenkrantz's parole as he has done once before. If Davis does nothing, Rosenkrantz will be freed for the first time since his arrest for the shooting of Steve Redman in 1985.

If Davis blocks parole, Rosenkrantz's lawyer has promised to sue the governor for overstepping his bounds by interfering with Rosenkrantz's court-ordered release. Davis once vowed to stop the parole of all convicted

killers but for the first time last week, he approved the parole of an inmate convicted of second-degree murder. Rose Ann Parker, 41, will be released in December. She shot her boyfriend to death in 1986. Davis said she was worthy of parole because her case had "the characteristics of battered women's syndrome, a now legally recognized defense which was not available at the time of her trial."

Last Thursday, the first convicted murderer released during the Davis administration left prison after 15 years. Jane Woods, 37, was convicted of second-degree murder for asking two co-workers to assault her boyfriend, who she says routinely beat her. One of the co-workers fatally stabbed the man. Davis had opposed her parole but she was released because her parole had already been approved under former Governor Pete Wilson's ad-

ministration.

Rosenkrantz's parole fight has been tied up in the courts for two years. A Superior Court judge ordered him released on September 14 but the 2nd District Court of Appeals granted a temporary stay of release the next day just seconds before he would have walked out of prison.

Rosenkrantz's parole hopes were dealt another major setback last Thursday when the appeals court overruled the Superior Court's immediate release order and made Rosenkrantz's stay of release permanent. That decision came as a surprise to many because of the parole board's recent admission it made "misrepresentations" in the case.

On September 14, the Board of Prison Terms reversed its June 30 order that allowed for Rosenkrantz's parole. The board

page 23 ►

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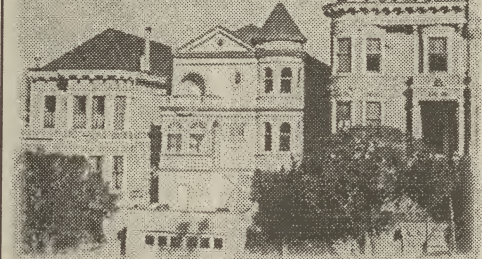
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DPH retracts previous statements – again

by Katie Szymanski

There has been "nothing above normal" in the rates of rectal gonorrhea infection among men who sex with men. This statement was made to the *Bay Area Reporter* last week by Dr. Gwen Hammer, epidemiologist at the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Her announcement came on September 26, a day after DPH sent out its monthly sexually transmitted disease report that re-included rectal gonorrhea rates for the month of August. Rectal gonorrhea rates had been suddenly dropped from the July report, suspiciously and immediately after they were referred to as evidence of an HIV surge among gay men in San Francisco. Due to factors such as an increase in rectal gonorrhea rates, said DPH in July, local experts could predict a surge in HIV seroconversion among men who have sex with men. But then, just days after that statement, those gonorrhea rates were missing from the usually detailed STD report.

In fact, there was no increase in male rectal gonorrhea rates, not in the recent past anyway.

The total cases for the month of July, finally disclosed by DPH after months of inquiry, was 16.

Let's back up and review history.

Somewhere within the walls of DPH, a media "leak" occurred at

the end of June to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, disclosing that the city's new HIV infections had doubled and were now at a "sub-Saharan African" rate. The story flew across the country and was picked up by the *New York Times* as evidence of a national surge in HIV, thanks to the irresponsible behavior of gay men. Days after the original *Chronicle* story broke, Dr. Willi McFarland told the *B.A.R.* that those numbers were not official and that his "sub-Saharan" comment was "unfortunate."

But alas, as Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano told a crowd of angry people demanding to know the real rates of HIV transmission, "The damage had been done," and no mainstream newspaper bothered to follow up that in fact DPH had retracted its earlier numbers.

Still, at this public hearing called by Ammiano in July, DPH Director Dr. Mitchell Katz insisted that there was an HIV surge, as evidenced by certain "HIV indicators," like the increase in rectal gonorrhea.

Then, quick as he said it, the rectal gonorrhea rates disappeared from the STD report.

Now they're back, and according to reports, rectal gonorrhea rates did not see marked increase in July or throughout 1999 and, so far, 2000. For August 2000, the rate had increased slightly from July, to 22 cases. But according to previous STD reports, a jump by five to

10 cases in one month is not unusual in the overall annual data.

Whether there was an increase from years before remains to be determined; the *B.A.R.* has requested this information, along with the number of men who have been tested.

That it has been excruciatingly difficult to get information of San Francisco's Department of Public Health is an understatement. That the DPH continues to issue misleading statements to a wide audience, then retract those statements to a small circle, is troubling. To be fair, DPH spokeswoman Eileen Shields has been exemplary in returning phone calls this week, but that is at the media level and does not begin to fix what has already been announced to the public by those at the top.

Now, as San Franciscans try once again to decipher what the true health statistics may be, the rest of the nation and even some residents continue to believe that the city's HIV cases have doubled to 900, when DPH is now saying that 500-600 new cases exist. At the very least, however, DPH has decided to continue to include rectal gonorrhea rates in its monthly STD report, which is a welcome change in policy. There is an added statistic to these reports as well: male rectal proctitis cases. This data will now be included in the monthly STD report along with rectal gonorrhea. ▼

Registration deadline near for November election

by Katie Szymanski

Five – count 'em – five days. That's how long you have to register to vote in the November 7 presidential election, if you haven't already, or if you have moved residences or changed names since the last time you registered.

In addition to the hotly contested presidential race, voters will be electing a U.S. senator in California. In San Francisco, voters will be electing supervisors by district, and in other parts of the Bay Area there are gay and lesbian candidates in runoff elections for city councils in San Jose (Ken Yeager) and Oakland (Rebecca Kaplan).

The deadline to turn in your signed form is midnight this Tuesday, October 10. It's the first extended deadline for the San Francisco Department of Elections, which plans to close westbound Grove Street that evening and have a "drive-through registration party" where volunteers with flashlights will help all those last-minute registrants, according to DOE spokeswoman Christiane Hayashi. That's if you register in person; to register via mail your application must simply be postmarked by October 10.

If there is one thing that the elections department would like to stress to voters this year, it's that the San Francisco tradition of wandering into any old polling place must come to an end. That's because district elections mean that only district-specific candidates will be at their correspond-

ing polling sites. If you have moved and not re-registered, you'll have to fill out a provisional ballot envelope "which is huge, and takes a lot of time," said Hayashi. And if you stop in at the nearest polling place and it doesn't match the district in which you live, according to Hayashi, "there's a very good chance that your vote will not count."

There are a few ways to beat this confusion, however. If you're uncertain which district you live in, you can visit DOE's Web site, which will tell you. Other options include voting absentee – your ballot must be received by 5 p.m. on October 31 – or voting early at City Hall, which begins on October 10; hours are weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. But that still doesn't eliminate the extra paperwork for a voter who has moved and not re-registered, so unless you have extensive documentation of your old and new names and/or residences, fill out that easy form once again.

This year is a chance to make history, to elect someone who actually serves you and is not beholden to big money with the return of district elections in San Francisco. Don't blow it by not registering to vote.

For more information, contact the Department of Elections at (415) 554-4375 or visit www.sfgov.org/election. In Alameda County, call (510) 663-8683 or visit www.co.alameda.ca.us/rov; in Santa Clara County, call (408) 299-8302 or visit www.sccvote.org. ▼

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Celebrating the Hormel Center



The Joe Goode Performance Group does "Jackie O" to entertain the sparse crowd at the fifth anniversary of the Hormel Center at the San Francisco Public Library September 30. The evening events included a VIP dinner, a cultural festival of performances and readings, and a performance by Janis Ian, all topped off with "The Night Listener Dance" disco party in the atrium.

Angels, Kutteles headline SLDN benefit

by Terry Beswick

It's Fleet Week in San Francisco, and what better way to celebrate than to join one of America's moms in the fight against anti-gay bigotry in the military?

They may or may not know it, but the jet pilots of the Blue Angels will be the featured performers at a picnic for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network this Sunday, October 8 at Treasure Island's Casa de la Vista in San Francisco.

And Pat Kutteles will be the featured speaker at the noontime picturesque fundraiser scheduled on the decommissioned former Naval island off the western end of the Bay Bridge.

The SLDN Web site for the event explains why.

"The Army called Pat Kutteles at 7 a.m. on July 5, 1999 to tell her that her son, Barry, had been attacked. While Pat and her husband, Wally, frantically packed to drive from Missouri to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, the Army called back and said, 'Don't drive. Fly.' That was the beginning of their nightmare. Their son had

been murdered."

Last week, the Army again denied culpability in the murder of Kutteles's son, Private First Class Barry Winchell, who was attacked while sleeping in his bunk by fellow service members who perceived him to be gay, stating that the \$1.8 million wrongful death suit had been filed under the wrong Act of Congress — the Military Claims Act rather than the Federal Tort Claims Act. Yet even if the suit had been filed under the latter, the Army claims in a letter received by Kutteles's attorney and released to the Associated Press, the military service won't have to pay a dime because the Supreme Court has limited damages payable in the civilian court.

The suit alleges that the Army knew that Winchell was being harassed for months prior to his death, but did nothing to stop it.

"I'm very upset and very disappointed and also angry that they don't care enough about his death to even consider the merits of the claim," Kutteles said, quoted in an AP story.

Her attorney called the Army's legal move a "procedural dodge," and promised to appeal.

Private Calvin Glover was sentenced to life in prison for murdering Winchell, and a second soldier was sentenced to 12 and a half years for lying to investigators.

"We are honored to have Mrs. Kutteles joining us here in San Francisco," said C. Dixon Osburn, SLDN co-executive director. "Without her efforts, a number of positive changes under way in the Pentagon, including a recently announced program to curb anti-gay harassment in the ranks, would not have been possible. She is a courageous woman, a loving mother, and we are proud to fight alongside her."

SLDN is the sole national legal aid and watchdog organization that assists servicemembers hurt by the U.S. military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue, Don't Harass" policy.

Suggested minimum contribution for the SLDN Red, White, & Blue Angels Picnic, which promises spectacular views of the city and uninterrupted viewing of the Blue Angels air show, is \$75 per person. Food and drinks are provided; casual attire is suggested.

For details and registration, visit <http://www.sldnsf.org>. ▼

Free self-defense classes for senior women

by Cynthia Laird

The national crime rate may be on the decline, but it can still be a rough experience on the streets, especially for older lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women in urban areas. To help these women learn street smarts,

New Leaf Outreach to Elders will host a series of free self-defense classes for LBT women 60 and over starting this Saturday, October 7 and continuing on the next two Saturdays, October 14 and 21.

Participants will learn physical and verbal skills, prevention strategies, and talk about the different forms of violence experi-

enced in the community. The classes are designed for all levels of physical ability.

All the upcoming Saturday sessions run from 10 a.m. until noon at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 100 Collingwood Street, in San Francisco. For more information, call Valerie at (415) 255-2937, ext. 308. ▼

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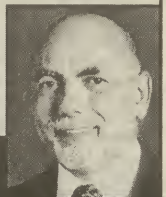
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Jay Bagi faces the bully

District 5 candidate decides to fight

by Katie Szymanski

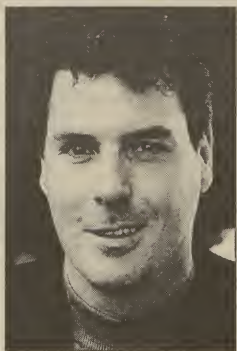
When Jay Bagi was just a sliver of the man he is now, he came out while attending high school, founded Albuquerque's first gay and lesbian youth group, and went on to march as the youngest person in that city's Pride Parade in 1979.

Flash forward 21 years and you'll find the same Bagi that sees everything through to the end; the candidate running for supervisor in District 5 doesn't just have a brochure, but a dozen pages outlining a specific housing and homelessness plan for San Francisco.

Bagi, 37, is a 13-year resident of San Francisco and of his district, which connects the dots from Judah to 19th Avenue, Lincoln, Stanyan, Geary, Presidio, Buena Vista, Laguna, California, Duboce, and Parnassus. In the restaurant business since age 11, Bagi has had to hang up his chef's hat to campaign, because the regular restaurant schedule interferes with his daylight working hours.

"People don't like it," he said, "when you knock on their door at one in the morning."

A Green Party member who recently "had to leave the Democ-



District 5 candidate Jay Bagi

atic Party out of protest," Bagi faces 10 other candidates, among them Mayor Willie Brown's favorites, Dr. Juanita Owens and Agar Jaicks, and the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club's pick, Matt Gonzalez.

Owens, according to Bagi, "has a less than stellar record," and Gonzalez, while Bagi agrees with his platform, did happen to just arrive in the district.

But Bagi doesn't necessarily take the kind of positions you'd expect from someone calling him-

self pro-tenant; he opposes, for instance, any efforts to outlaw condominium conversions and tenancies in common, because he believes it will result in a loss of property stock and "ultimately hurt the very people the measure is intended to help." He does, however, call for tenants to be able to purchase their own building and for the city to aid them in the down payment process.

On homelessness, Bagi first wants to take a census count of the population, then build shelter on the Presidio and Treasure Island, with an emphasis on children's needs and education. He also proposes a mobile psychiatric outreach service to assist those with mental illnesses on the streets. But on the other hand he would like to "discourage people of limited capabilities from migrating here," including anyone who still thinks of San Francisco as a "Summer of Love utopia... and lives without any social restraints or responsibilities."

Bagi says he advocates for a grassroots democracy, and a city in which the decisions are not made or influenced by the very few. Currently endorsed by the Chinese-American Democratic Club and Adopt-a-Muni, he says he decided to run because in this machine-politics town, "it's fight or flight."

"It's like having a big bully who takes your milk money every week," said Bagi. "At some point you just have to stand up." ▼

PULSE beats in Sonoma

by Katie Szymanski

Sonoma County may be a gay resort haven, but for queer youth and young adults it can often feel like the rural trap many gays left behind. Face to Face, an AIDS service organization in Santa Rosa, hopes to alleviate some of this seclusion with PULSE, a new program for the area's young gay, bisexual, and curious men.

PULSE will target HIV/AIDS prevention messages to Sonoma men who are 18 to 30 years old. Designed by and for young men, the program will offer a variety of social activities that include bowling, skating, video nights, discussion groups, and forums about dating and relationships. Volun-

teers are already busy spreading the word and designing the program's Web site, and a kickoff barbecue is planned for October 22.

"Young men in Sonoma County are dealing with issues of isolation and are not feeling connected to our community," said Anthony Taylor, PULSE program coordinator. "This new program gives them a chance to create community with other young guys through social activities."

All PULSE events and meetings are free and open to all gay, bi, and questioning men 18-30. For more information on the program, to become a volunteer, or to find out specifics about upcoming events, call (707) 544-1581, ext. 104, or visit the PULSE Web site at www.pulseprogram.org. ▼

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Volume 30, Number 40
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Democratic participation

The first presidential debate took place Tuesday night, and while there were no gay-related questions posed by moderator Jim Lehrer, the exchanges between Democratic candidate Vice President Al Gore and Republican Texas Governor George W. Bush showed us why it is essential for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities to support Gore on November 7. In many ways, the stakes couldn't be higher. Do we want to move forward with progress on equal rights for the gay community? Do we want a hand in participating in shaping the policy debates? Do we want a U.S. Supreme Court that will broadly interpret the Constitution, rather than chip rights away?

The answer to all of these questions is a resounding "yes."

During the debate, both candidates showed where they stand on the question of appointing Supreme Court justices, and there is every indication that the next president will get a chance to make several of those appointments. Gore hit the nail on the head when he pointed out that Bush's position of picking "strict constructionists" was code for choosing judges who would overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the court's landmark abortion ruling. Bush said that he wanted justices who "look at the Constitution as sacred," while Gore believes in appointing justices who may see fit to interpret the Constitution to reflect changing times.

Just think of what would have happened had some of those conservative justices, such as Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, been in the minority on the infamous Boy Scout decision the court handed down in June, when they ruled to allow the Boy Scouts of America to discriminate against gay troop leaders. The razor-close 5-4 majority might have been reversed in favor of outlawing such blatant sexual orientation discrimination.

Gore is also on record in support of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and hate crimes legislation, and he said earlier in the campaign that the flawed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy covering gays and lesbians serving in the military isn't working.

By contract, Bush is against the ad-

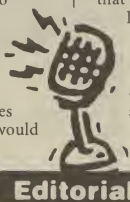
vancement of equal rights in the workplace, and he steadfastly supports DADT. If Bush is elected, he's pledged to bring into his Cabinet one of the architects of DADT, retired General Colin Powell, who turned against President Clinton's attempt to lift the ban on gays in the military during the early part of his administration. Is that what we want?

There are significant differences between Gore and Bush, and we would remind readers who are considering a vote for Green Party candidate Ralph Nader: Don't do it. Nader is falling in the polls and has no reasonable chance of winning. The only thing Nader has is the ability to siphon votes away from Gore. In other words, a vote for Nader is a vote for Bush. This is the tightest election in two decades, and LGBT voters, who are some of the most politically savvy in the

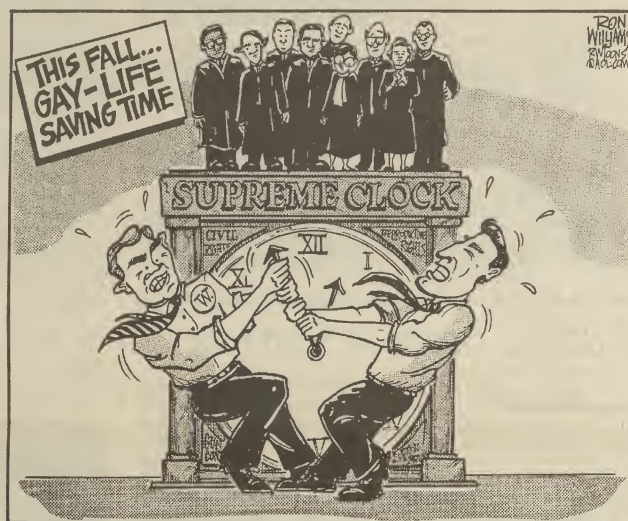
country, should see through Nader's rants about there being no differences between Gore and Bush.

We also want to emphasize to readers that this Tuesday, October 10, is the deadline to register to vote in next month's election. If you aren't registered, call the Department of Elections or get on the Web and sign up before Tuesday. (For more information, see our story on page 3.) We urged readers to register before the March primary because of the anti-gay Proposition 22 that was on the ballot then; this time the stakes are much higher. We have a chance to continue on the road to equality by helping to elect Al Gore president. That opportunity would surely be lost irrevocably should George W. Bush prevail.

You can't participate in democracy if you're not registered to vote. Just do it. ▼



Editorial



Give SF voters credit, please

by Esther Lee and Dean Goodwin

Vince Quakenbush's Guest Opinion last week just goes to show how easy it is to attack, discredit, and cast aspersions simply because you disagree with someone else. That kind of juvenile tactic is divisive, unnecessary, and intrusive in this day and age when San Francisco's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community are as sophisticated and diverse as we are. Give the voters in San Francisco a little more credit please!

Disagree with us on political issues but, someone please get us a cappuccino, personal attacks and whining are so obtuse and boring! We know better, and we know that LGBT voters look at the issues, the records, and the candidates. We encourage everyone to do so. And if we disagree, then so be it. But, Vince, this is not a popularity contest. Let us be the first to say "It's okay to feel angry, Vince. We understand. We too want to wear that tiara at the prom."

Vince may not like any of the gay and lesbian candidates we are supporting but he can't seem to find any real issues in common with them to address except their sexual orientation. He is clearly upset over the candidates we have endorsed, the issues we advocate, and our record of accomplishment in electing out gay and lesbian elected officials and promoting of local and state ballot propositions.

The Alice B. Toklas Club looks at candidate's records and positions and makes our decisions based on candidates' positions to create more housing, champion the rights of renters and first-time home buyers, respond to the current development dilemma, public health, civil rights issues, environ-

mental, and social justice issues and their credibility as a candidate.

Vince attacks us for empowering our community and claims we did so to increase the number of LGBT voters. Vince disparages our endorsed slate of diverse, experienced leaders from the LGBT community. Since when did that become such a terrible thing?

The LGBT community is a large and diverse community with much political savvy. We have put our candidates forward for their consideration based upon their records of accomplishment and their plans for the future. Vince would rather try to malign distinguished community leaders like Mark Leno and Juanita Owens rather than to promote his own candidates. He would rather toss out an entire record of community service over something with which he disagrees, rather than to look at the entire record of accomplishment.

Alice has successfully championed the election of many talented, capable members of our community for offices for school board, college board, BART board, supervisor, treasurer, and state Assembly.

On behalf of the nearly 300 members of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club we would like to take this opportunity to remind voters what is at stake in this coming November election. From local and statewide to national elections, we have the potential to vote for a wave of out lesbian and gay people with a proven track record of getting things done who will continue carrying the legacy of our LGBT community in office.

Along with our continued support and

endorsement of Assemblywoman Carole Migden, Supervisor Tom Ammiano, Supervisor Mark Leno, BART board Director Tom Radulovich – all up for re-election, we have also endorsed school board member Juanita Owens who is running for Supervisor in District 5 and who is in a tough battle against another mayoral candidate, Agar Jaicks. We have endorsed Community College Board Trustee Lawrence Wong in another tough battle over Mayor Brown's candidate, Supervisor Alicia Becerra.

We have also endorsed community activist Rebecca Silverberg for Supervisor in District 11 who is in a tough battle against Mayor Brown's candidate, Amos Brown. And we support Stephen Herman and A. Toni Young, two out gay and lesbian candidates in their first run for school

board. The club has been actively working to create much needed visibility to defeat Proposition 38, the statewide initiative for school vouchers, increase campaign finance reform, elect fair-minded representatives to Congress and take back the House for Democrats, and elect Al Gore and Joseph Lieberman to the White House. To quote a bumper sticker we saw around town, "It's the Supreme Court, Stupid!" and it all starts right here at home. Feel free to disagree, but pass us a cappuccino if you decide to start ranting about it. We are so over that! ▼

The authors are co-chairs of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club.

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

A narrow view

Okay, just had my morning cup of coffee, and am reading Vince Quackenbush's rather bizarre assertion that we shouldn't elect gay people this November ["Vote for 'lavender interests,'" *Guest Opinion, September 28*]. Let me just take another gulp. Alice B. Toklas is bad because it endorsed a large number of diverse gay and lesbian candidates, (Carole Migden for Assembly, Tom Radulovich for BART, Tom Amiano, Mark Leno, Juanita Owens, Chris Dittenhafer, and Lawrence Wong for supervisor and Stephen Herman and Toni Young for school board), and this is a bad thing? Quackenbush and his organization (the Harvey Milk club) believe that we are beyond electing gays and can now count on straight candidates to advance our agenda that meet a certain "litmus test," and apparently nobody gay or lesbian that Alice B. Toklas has endorsed in this election does.

One of the wonderful things about San Francisco elections is the diversity and variety of candidates. Voters absolutely should use a variety of forums events and pay attention to organizations they trust when deciding who to elect.

But let's get real here. Gay people, like all people, do hold varying degrees of ideology and care about a lot of issues. But where Mr. Quackenbush loses it is in this demonization of people that don't meet his very narrow and extremely fringe litmus test that is currently about mean spirited personal attacks.

As a gay man, a political consultant, and a lifelong San Franciscan, I fundamentally disagree with his and Milks' analysis. It's the gay people we elect today in local races that become our future leaders in bigger arenas tomorrow. In Congress, Barney Frank and Tammy Baldwin are the ones making sure that our agenda is on the table. Where did they come from? School boards and city councils. In California do we rely on our straight allies to step up and fight issues like Proposition 22? No, Carole Migden and Sheila Kuehl are there to fight the right in Sacramento (thank goodness) they constantly must force straight politicians to vote for us.

So Vince, there are extraordinarily powerful reasons why our community should consider electing qualified and diverse gay and lesbian candidates to a variety of local offices endorsed by Alice and frankly question the lack of gay/lesbian endorsements by Milk.

Instead of focusing your rather unhealthy anger at Alice (and me), go out and recruit gay and lesbian candidates that meet your ideological litmus test and elect them. But stop spending your time destructively criticizing those brave gay and lesbian people running for office in this election and those that support them, because we care about advancing the next generation of gay and lesbian leadership in America.

Robert Barnes
San Francisco

Prop. N is bad for gays

Proposition N, which would effectively ban tenancy in common or TIC ownership of property in San Francisco, is an extreme piece of legislation that is bad for the gay and lesbian community. TICs are one of the most affordable ways for unmarried people get together to buy property. With the astronomical prices in the city for single family homes and condominiums, TICs are the only chance for many San Francisco renters to break into home ownership. And since we in the GLBT community can't get married (yet), TICs are the most popular way for gays and lesbians to become first time buyers. If our government is not going to let us marry, it's unfair to also take away one of the few ways we have left to own property with our partners. Vote No on Proposition N.

Michael Sullivan
San Francisco

TGs don't matter

In 1998 there was an election for co-chairs of the HIV Health Services Planning Council. Tom Calvanese and Diane Jones were the co-chairs. I won the vote, along with Nilda Rodriguez and Tony Leone. Tom sent an e-mail out to everyone (but me) saying that he wanted Nilda to come aboard first, and then as he and Dion left, Tony and I would be brought aboard respectively, with the premise being that someone would always know what was going on and could help the others come "on board." It sounded good, and the council bought it.

The mayor did not renew Tom's place on the CARE Council, and Diane chose to leave and pursue other efforts. Tony died and Nilda lasted all of two months. What did the council do? They totally swept me under the rug. I waited to see if anyone's conscience reminded them that there had already been an election for co-chairs, and that I was one of them. Not one person stepped forward to say anything. They instead voted right on top of me, picking Susan Shea and Eric Whitney.

Last week they had a new election. I had been nominated again. This time I lost because I didn't send e-mails to all of the members to "sell" myself. I

thought surely there were enough members who were still on board that would know of my contributions to the council in the three years that I have been a part of that body. I have given more than just a clever quip, an anecdote, or caused the council to laugh. Brad Hume asked if we could say why we wanted to be co-chairs. I said that it would not only be an historic occasion, but would show that transgenders matter in this community. That it would show leadership within my community.

I lost.

At least Jim Mitulski played fair, something Tom Calvanese hadn't done. I shook everyone's hand and went home. However, this lesson showed me something that I guess I should have known: transgenders don't matter.

While I am disappointed that I haven't been given the full opportunity to show just what transgenders can do, I have done plenty. I am currently trying to make arrangements with Mayor Brown to have the first transgender summit in history take place next year.

Just remember that transgenders have a lot to offer, and you are not to discount them when you speak of "community." We vote, and are a wellspring of information and professional talent. Tap into us.

Veronika Cauley
Commissioner of Veterans Affairs
San Francisco

Demands no more ads

As a person living with HIV and hepatitis C, as well as being a founding member of an organization committed to nonviolent direct action in patient advocacy (Hepatitis C Action & Advocacy Coalition - San Francisco), I am disappointed that the B.A.R. has chosen to print an advertisement sponsored by the group calling itself ACT UP/San Francisco.

In its ad this group states that its members will stop being "disruptive" only when certain listed conditions of theirs are met. Based on this group's demonstrated public behavior and statements, the word "disruptive" here is a euphemism for verbal and physical terrorism. This behavior is unacceptable. It is time to hold this group accountable for its actions.

I support the B.A.R. in its inclusive written policy on the acceptance of advertisements. Members of ACT UP/San Francisco are entitled to their anti-scientific beliefs. However they do not have a right to perpetrate violence in our community. Nor do they have a right to a public forum to continue to threaten to commit such violence if we do not meet their demands. This group has forfeited its right to be respected and listened to as long as it holds our right to public safety hostage.

As a responsibility to our community, I demand that the B.A.R. refuse to print any more advertisements, or other materials from members of ACT UP/San Francisco, or any such violent group, until such time as it publicly renounces its proven record of terrorist threats and actions.

Brian D. Klein, MA, LMSW
San Francisco

Fortunate to have ACT UP/SF

I wish to comment on the full page boycott ad against ACT UP/SF in the September 21 issue. It appears that the AIDS establishment is now on the defensive and less comfortable slopping at the government/fundraising/pharmaceutical trough. Other saps who support their agenda need only see names like Pat (six figures) Christen to question the cause.

How these people can accuse ACT UP/SF of controlling the dialogue and threatening lives is unmitigated hypocrisy. Virtually all mainstream press and gay rags like the B.A.R. have given unquestioned loyalty to the HIV hypothesis and precious little factual coverage of issues like poppers, excessive antibiotic usage, and other poisons, among other subjects raised by the unheard dissident movement for years and at huge expense to gay men in particular.

This shallow attempt at more censorship should be resisted by joining ACT UP/SF in speaking the truth. If someone gets squeamish over their tactics in getting the truth out then one must also be oblivious to murder by AZT in particular.

The huge AIDS industry will never own up to its mistakes until forced. We are all fortunate to have courageous, dedicated, intelligent people like ACT UP/SF among us.

Jerry McPherson, HEAL SF
Oakland, California

Name change needed

It's curious to me that a group called AIDS Activists Against Violence and Lies would introduce itself to the world with two blatant lies - namely, that ACT UP/San Francisco espouses or practices violence and that the organization is untruthful about HIV/AIDS. Yes, ACT UP/SF's actions are provocative and upsetting to many. But Silly String, Kitty litter, and

next page ►

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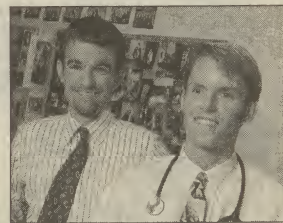
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red liquid are not the stuff violence is made of. As for the veracity of the things ACT UP/SF has to say, the last time I checked, the HIV antibody test is non-specific, HIV has never been properly isolated as a unique retrovirus, AIDS drugs kill, and the HIV/AIDS industry is a \$10 billion a year machine that doesn't brook any questions.

David Fink
San Francisco**ACT UP/SF = stupid group**

I support a boycott of ACT UP/San Francisco. They are nothing but a bunch of loudmouth violent people who give the gay community a bad influence, telling us AIDS survivors that AIDS drugs kill you. Bull! Thank God for the drug-makers who make these life-saving drugs. Protease inhibitors brought me back to life from certain death. Get this: I tested positive for the AIDS virus in February 1985. Why do you think I'm still here, alive and kicking? AIDS drugs.

Don't believe a small group of jerks who go around spreading lies.

Scott Sproat
Concord, California**Handling the consequences**

I'm curious as to what John Birmingham believes DPH should have told newly infected Azriel Hayes, who claims nobody warned him about HIV [Mailstrom, September 21]. Birmingham's analogy comparing an ignorant, AIDS-phobic Muni driver to an ignorant, risk-indifferent gay male "youngster" (yeah right, as if Hayes is a 10-year-old) is bogus. Hayes's letter [Mailstrom, August 17] implied he was well aware of the facts on HIV risk but was talked into (or more likely, talked himself into) ignoring them.

Hayes wasn't seeking "advice" on his diagnosis, as Birmingham asserts. He was seeking punishment for, or restitution from, the guy he claims infected him. DPH told him there was nothing he could do about that. If Birmingham thinks that was a "false answer," then what, pray tell, is the true answer? Shall we mobilize a special sex-police unit whenever someone like Hayes decides the responsibility for his status is entirely someone else's? (How convenient. If you don't like your neighbor, you can just tell the goon squad he's spreading HIV.)

Something's very wrong when people who can't handle the consequences of their own foolish judgments can draw sympathy for their misdirected sense of indignation.

Peter Almanetti
San Francisco**Prop. A needed for libraries**

This letter is in response to James Chaffee's "Not our library branches, too" which appeared in the September 14 Bay Area Reporter.

Up front, let me tell you that: 1) I work part-time for the San Francisco Public Library; 2) I am a member of the library's labor union; and 3) I am a member of the Friends and Foundation of the SFPL. However, my views are my own.

I agree with virtually every one of Mr. Chaffee's observations concerning the New Main Library. Yet, it seems to me that just because the Friends and Foundation is backing November's bond issue, that is not enough for any voter to reject Proposition A out of hand.

You should know that more than half of our branches are over 50 years old. I've worked at the majority of the branches. I've seen entrance steps that challenge the most buffed folks, seen restrooms that resemble outhouses, and seen many disappointed patrons who come in expecting Internet access but find none. Most important of all are the seismic issues. Many of the branches are rated "4" in terms of seismic safety, with "4" being the most dangerous. How would any of us feel if Proposition A were rejected and later on kids were killed in the Noe Valley branch as a result of a major earthquake? Don't discount the possibility, either. The children's room in the Noe Valley branch was built in 1916 and is extremely vulnerable to collapse.

Mark Mackler
San Francisco**Insulate planning panel from politics**

I do not know Dennis Antenore personally, but I know that I respect his integrity very much. Antenore was a member of the San Francisco Planning Commission until Mayor Willie Brown recently fired him. Those of us who care about integrity in government must strongly support community leaders like Dennis Antenore.

It seems that Antenore was fired because he refused to back the Mayor's so-called "growth control" Proposition K on the November ballot. Antenore has often been on the short end of 5-2 and 6-1 votes on the Planning Commission. Apparently Mayor Brown will not be satisfied until there are 7-0 votes for all of the development plans put forward by his friends.

As Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano

has advocated, it is time to amend the charter to allow members of the Planning Commission to be removed only by a vote of the Board of Supervisors - preferably only by a super-majority, such as the eight votes required to overturn a Planning Commission recommendation. The more insulated Planning Commissioners are from politics and influence peddling, the better job they can do in balancing economic growth with the needs to preserve the city's wonderful neighborhoods.

Rich Kowalewski
San Francisco**Sex is complicated**

While I applaud Mr. Casale's [Mailstrom, September 7] decision to choose and stick to a safer-sex regimen, it's clear that such a decision is not so easy for many others. Regardless of how the numbers are crunched, it's apparent that HIV transmission rates are rising again in our community. As Mr. Casale points out, the reasons for the rise in transmission are complicated. Clearly, the "use a condom every time" message, like the infamous "just say no" is unrealistic and inadequate.

Our sexual behaviors as gay, bi, and trans men, combined with our group and community identities make for a complicated set of factors that influence decision-making. Any move toward a prevention model that takes into account how we make decisions, and encourages us to think critically about what we are willing to do, or not, is an important step toward a new paradigm in prevention for our community.

While DPH's new 11-point action plan and the B.A.R.'s recent articles detailing harm reduction strategies may seem unduly complicated, they together serve to encourage us to discuss what is really happening, to move toward new and unique ways to help us make better decisions, and to ensure the health of our community.

Jay Harcourt
San Francisco**Dilemma around rectal microbicides**

Congratulations to Terry Beswick for the excellent article on the dangers of N-9 used in the rectum and to B.A.R. for helping inform our community ["N-9 can cause HIV infection," September 7].

I am the co-principal investigator with David Phillips of one of the studies discussed in the article. Dave first showed that when mice have an N-9 product put in their rectums and are challenged with herpes, they become infected more quickly, have worse lesions and die much faster than those in the control groups. Together, Dave and I found that N-9 products cause even greater erosion of the rectal lining in humans than in mice. The research has been accepted for publication in a peer reviewed journal and is entitled, "Nonoxonyl-9 Causes Rapid Exfoliation of Sheets of Rectal Epithelium."

Beswick also discusses the recent study in which African female sex workers given a gel "laced with N-9" became infected more quickly and in greater numbers than the women given an identical placebo without N-9. The N-9 product used was Advantage S, formerly known as Advantage 24.

This same product was tested on a large number of gay men's rectums by researchers at Washington State University, Seattle. During the International AIDS Conference in Vancouver in 1998, the researchers stated that Advantage 24 did not cause irritation. How could findings of a deadly N-9 product be so different from what David and I observed? The answer is simple. A critical basic issue had not been addressed in their research design: the length of time from product application and potential damage to repair by the rectum.

David discovered in mice that once the irritating product was gone, the mouse rectum quickly repaired itself - often within 10 minutes to an hour. In our study with humans, we found that the N-9 damage had been done within minutes and was repaired when we checked eight to 10 hours later. Washington state researchers didn't study the gay guys' rectums after application of N-9 until several days had passed.

There are many other basic questions which must be answered in order to create rectal microbicides. They could be solved fairly easily and at relatively little cost; but until the most basic research is performed, progress in HIV prevention beyond condoms during anal intercourse is very unlikely.

We all have the need and right to protect our internal erogenous zones with more than condoms regardless of gender and power issues. Second, "heterosexual sex" is obviously not limited to vaginal intercourse. The fact is, microbicide development began as part of reproductive health and has remained there. The politics of sex research and sodomy, political indifference, and the assumption that what works for the vagina will work in the anus combine to prevent rectal microbicide development.

Our collective inaction is murder in the name of manners, morals, and purported feminist politics. We must demand rectal microbicide development now.

Clark L. Taylor Ph.D., Ed.D.
San Francisco

POLITICS

11 states elect governors in November

by Wayne Friday

Though the races have been largely overshadowed by one of the closest contests for president in decades and a fierce battle for control of the House of Representatives, there are 11 gubernatorial races across the country to be decided next month, with several being highly competitive.

Republicans currently hold a 30-18 edge over Democrats in the nation's governors; two states, Minnesota and Maine, have independent governors. In November, four Democratic incumbents and two Republican incumbents will be seeking re-election; there are also five open governor races, two of which are currently held by Republicans and three by Democrats.

The 11 governorships to be decided this year is a small number compared to two years ago when 36 states held gubernatorial contests. None of the 10 most populous states have races next month, but the winners of the contests in the 11 states deciding control of their statehouses will have enormous influence when the state legislatures begin to redraw the boundaries of congressional and state legislative districts after the 2000 census. This fact has not been lost on either major party as tens of millions of dollars are being spent by both the Republican and Democratic parties in hopes of changing some of the state election results on November 7.

Democratic strategists expect to pick up three of the GOP-held gubernatorial seats this November, though Republican officials say they will likely hold their own after next month's election. Democrats feel they have a good chance of picking up Republican-held governor's seats in Montana where Democratic state Auditor **Mark O'Keefe** is facing GOP Lieutenant Governor **Judy Martz** in the contest to succeed term-out Republican **Marc Racicot**. In North Dakota, Democratic state Attorney General **Heidi Heitkamp** is thought to be leading GOP bank executive **John Hoeven**. In West Virginia, Representative **Robert Wise** (D) is said to be currently ahead of incumbent GOP Governor **Cecil Underwood**.

Democratic incumbents thought to be in re-election trouble are from New England where New Hampshire Governor **Jeanne Shaheen** (D) faces a tough challenge from former U.S. Senator **Gordon Humphrey**, the Republican, and in Vermont where Democratic Governor **Howard Dean**, in trouble for supporting a controversial measure that recognizes gay relationships, as legal civil unions, is facing a tough campaign from Republican **Ruth Dwyer**, a conservative former state legislator who has made the gay issue a staple of her campaign.

Of the open gubernatorial races, Missouri, North Carolina, and Delaware, all currently Democrat-controlled, are expected to stay in Democratic hands while

Utah will stay safe for the Republicans.

Will the 30-18 Republican edge change at all after next month's general election? Probably. Look for Democrats to gain two seats - West Virginia and Montana (North Dakota is a tossup); since Governors **Jesse Ventura** of Minnesota and **Angus King** of Maine aren't up for election this year, the nation's gubernatorial lineup next year will likely be 28 Republicans, 20 Democrats and two independents.

The abortion factor

The Clinton administration's decision last week to allow the drug RU-486 to be used in the United States immediately brings the abortion debate back to the forefront of the presidential race. The Food and Drug Administration announced that it will

allow medical professionals to administer the drug,

mifepristone, to terminate early pregnancies. The reaction on both sides of the abortion issue was typically polarized, with anti-abortion activists accusing President **Bill Clinton** of cynically manipulating the FDA in his final months in office and the abortion-rights supporters hailing the decision as a major milestone in women's rights and the quest for universal access to abortion.

The revival of the divisive issue was certainly unwelcome news for Texas Governor **George W. Bush**, the anti-abortion Republican presidential nominee. Knowing the volatility of the abortion issue and considering his own position on it, particularly among the nation's female voters, Bush rarely addresses the abortion subject, but opposes the landmark *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision of 1973 that legalized the procedure, and most feel that if elected president, Bush would move quickly to appoint Supreme Court justices posed to reverse the 1973 decision.

Vice President **Al Gore**, the Democratic presidential nominee, is unequivocally in the abortion-rights camp, and is supported by most pro-choice women's groups. Gore's campaign immediately released a statement saying that "the vice president is pleased with the FDA's decision to approve use of the drug RU-486."

Politics and people

Al Gore and **Dubya Bush** have both taken their television appearances to extremes with guest shots on MTV (at least Gore wasn't asked what kind of underwear he uses), and shows with **Oprah Winfrey**, **Regis Philbin**, **Jay Leno**, and **David Letterman**. What's next - cooking with **Martha Stewart** or doing an exercise with the insufferable **Richard Simmons**? A reader writes that this all started with **Bill Clinton** playing a saxophone on television. Wrong. Richard Nixon years earlier made a hyped appearance on *Saturday Night Live* (or was it *Laugh-In*) and it went downhill from there.

San Francisco's powerful Police Officers Association (SFPAA) has recommended the election of

openly gay supervisor candidates **Chris Dittenhafer** in District 6, **Mark Leno** in District 8, and **Tom Ammiano** in District 9.

Marijuana is on the ballot across the West in next month's election, from proposals to allow its medicinal use in Colorado and Nevada to measures that would let it flourish in Alaska and California's Mendocino County. Nevada and Colorado voters will decide if marijuana should be legal for medicinal use and recent polls suggest passage in both states. Under Mendocino County's Measure G, adults could grow 25 pot plants apiece, but not for sale or transporting. The sheriff and prosecutor in that county would make marijuana crime their lowest priority and county officials would seek an end to state and federal marijuana laws. There's no organized opposition - little surprise in an area whose yearly marijuana crop has a street value of around \$1 billion. Nevada voters already approved medicinal marijuana by a 59 percent vote in 1998; a second "yes" vote is needed to modify the state's constitution to allow medicinal marijuana use.

Republican veep nominee **Dick Cheney** and his wife, the acid-tongued television commentator and author **Lynne Cheney**, were more than a bit surprised last week when reporters disclosed to them who is playing the role of Cheney to help Lieberman prepare for this week's veep debate. When told it is Washington literary agent and attorney **Robert Barnett**, **Lynne Cheney** gasped, "He's my book agent!" quickly adding: "my former agent!"

Meanwhile, there was **Dick Cheney** appearing in Lancaster, California alongside state Senator **Pete Knight** (R-Palmdale), who sponsored the homophobic Proposition 22 that limits valid marriages to those between a man and a woman. Knight was among a small group of former fighter pilots Cheney was honoring. When asked specifically about Knight, Cheney, the first major party nominee for vice president to have an openly gay child, snapped "I can't think of a finer group of Americans; I'm proud to share the stage with them."

An early look at next month's San Francisco supervisorial contests: Slam dunk wins for incumbent **Gavin Newsom** in District 2 (he is unopposed) and **Supervisor Tom Ammiano** in District 9; Supervisor **Alicia Becerra** likely to eventually lose to **Aaron Peskin** or **Lawrence Wong** in District 3; Incumbent **Leland Lee** leading his top opponent, **Tom Hsieh** in District 4; **Juanita Owens**, **Matt Gonzalez**, and **Agar Jaicks** in a tossup contest in District 5; a similar tossup contest between **Chris Dittenhafer**, **Chris Daly** and **Beryl Magilavy** in District 6 (Hank Wilson is a factor there as well); Supervisor **Mabel Teng** could lose to challenger **Tony Hall** in District 7; Supervisor **Mark Leno** has real opposition from **Eileen Hansen** in District 8, but **Leno** still wins; former Planning Commissioner **Linda Richardson** ahead in District 10, but **Sophie Maxwell** could still pull that one out; Supervisor **Amos Brown** in big trouble in District 11 and is likely to lose his seat to **Rebecca Silverberg** or **Steven Currier**.

And how was your week? ▼

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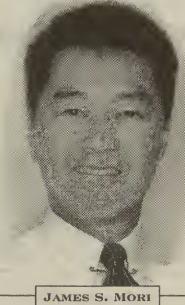
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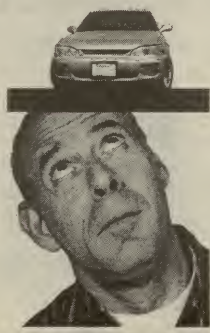
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Anti-gay reality TV

by **Bob Findle, GLAAD
Publications Manager**

CBS missed an opportunity to address homophobia when it ignored the anti-gay remarks made by George, one of the housemates on the reality show *Big Brother*. The show is about a group of contestants who share a house and who have no contact with the outside world. Each week, a person is voted out of the house and the last remaining person will win \$500,000.

A few weeks ago, during a group game, contestant Josh said, "I'd do a guy before I'd kiss him." This upset George, who then began harassing Josh for the statement. George's position was that being gay or thought of as being gay was one of the worst things possible. Ultimately, George voted to have Josh removed from the house because he didn't want him to "say anything else that would damage his character."

Because George's homophobic remarks and actions went unchallenged within the house, GLAAD requested that *Big Brother* host Julie Chen discuss his comments with him after he was voted out. The simple request for balance and accountability was not honored by *Big Brother* producers.

GLAAD calls on CBS and *Big Brother* producers to provide balance and accountability in the future.

Contact Doug Ross, Executive Producer, *Big Brother*, 5358 Cartwright Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91601; fax: (818) 505-1333; e-mail: douglas@evolutionusa.com, or Nancy Tallem, President, CBS Entertainment, 7800 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036; fax: (323) 575-7401; e-mail: nancy.tellem@tvc.cbs.com

An ultimate
lesbian kitchen

The Food Network provides a good example of inclusion on its *Ultimate Kitchens* show that airs October 7 and repeats on October

15. The episode has Leslie Rundell and Dana Folse, a lesbian couple, as one of the two couples featured.

Rundell and Folse chat on camera about their home, their relationship and how they went about having their kitchen remodeled. They are joined later in the show by two other women for a dinner party.

The program provides examples of how the female couple is no different from the opposite-sex couple that is also featured on the program. Both couples take pride in their homes and work together as a unit to achieve what they want.

Tune in and also let the Food Network know its inclusion of all types of couples is appreciated.

Contact Kathleen Finch, Director of Production, The Food Network, 1180 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y., 10036; fax: (212) 398-2969; e-mail: kfinch@foodtv.com

Gay Hollywood 2000

Now on newsstands, an amazing issue of *Entertainment Weekly* looks at Hollywood from the gay angle. "Gay Hollywood 2000" is the cover story package piece that covers a wide array of topics:

- A listing of 101 lesbian or gay people within the industry making positive changes for the LGBT community.

- An article discussing issues on how television as a medium has led the increase of gay visibility in Hollywood.

- A discussion of film making by out directors/producers Kevin Williamson (*Scream*), Kimberly Peirce (*Boys Don't Cry*), Greg Berlanti (*The Broken Hearts Club*) and Bill Condon (*Gods and Monsters*).

- A feature on Showtime's upcoming *Queer As Folk*.

- A summary of upcoming LGBT-themed projects for television,

movies, books, music, theater, etc.

- An article about the issue of closeted celebrities.

- Articles examining why there is so much homophobia in hip-hop, why there are no LGBT characters on daytime television, the experience of being both gay and a blue-collar entertainment industry worker, and an essay on when humor becomes offensive.

Be sure to pick up a copy of this exhaustive look at the entertainment industry and to forward your comments to *Entertainment Weekly*. A recipient of a 1999 GLAAD Fairness Award, *Entertainment Weekly* continues to be an example of fair, accurate and inclusive representations of the LGBT community.

Contact Mark Harris, Senior Editor, *Entertainment Weekly*, 1675 Broadway, 28th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10019-5820; fax: (212) 522-0074; e-mail: mark_harris@ew.com.

Pride overlooked in Dallas

Dallas Pride took place over the weekend of September 23-24, but was not reported on by the *Dallas Morning News*. Except for a one-line mention in a weather story, no articles were run about the size of the event, the number of attendees nor the special honorees.

The omission by the *Dallas Morning News* of the event is puzzling. Dallas Pride is certainly of interest to a variety of the newspaper's readers and deserved at least a picture.

Let the *Dallas Morning News* know that it needs to be more inclusive of LGBT events.

Contact Mike Hashimoto, City Editor, *Dallas Morning News*, 508 Young Street, Dallas, Texas 75202-4808; fax: (214) 977-8319; e-mail: metro@dallasnews.com. ▼

GLAAD's AlertLine: 1-800-GAY-MEDIA (1-800-429-6334).

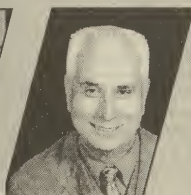
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COMMENTARY

If Gore wins

by Dale Carpenter

On November 8, the country will wake up to a new president-elect and a new Congress. If Gore wins, as national gay groups urge, he will either be accompanied by a Democratic Congress (Scenario #1) or a Congress still at least partly controlled by Republicans (Scenario #2). What do these Gore-as-president scenarios offer gays?

Scenario #1: Under this potential outcome, Al Gore is elected president and Democrats take control of both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. Gay advocates will dance in the streets. There will be high hopes that Gore and the Democrats will keep their many promises to gays.

The two items on which a Democrat-controlled government is most likely to deliver are, in order of likelihood, federal hate crimes legislation and federal employment non-discrimination protection (ENDA). Gore mentioned both of these in his speech accepting the Democratic nomination. The Democratic platform was similarly explicit.

Yet these items are also the most controversial among gays. And they are probably the least consequential in that their effect will be largely symbolic. There is no evidence that hate crimes legislation actually deters hate crimes. It is likely unconstitutional. And anti-discrimination laws protecting gays, while defensible, are rarely used. The hostility still confronting gay America is simply deeper than these hortatory laws can reach.

Under Scenario #1, watch for action on two other issues that would have much greater substantive impact on the lives of gay Americans. With Democrats in charge of the government, there should be no excuse for inaction (or half-hearted action) on them.

First, will Gore keep his

promise to get Congress to lift the ban on gays in the military?

Second, will the Democrats fulfill their platform pledge to offer gay couples benefits through a domestic partners law covering federal employees? Last week on *Larry King Live* Gore averred that a gay couple is "a family." Does he mean it?

Despite what Gore's gay supporters say, don't get your hopes up. We've been down the road whereon a Democratic presidential candidate promises lots and delivers little. With Democrats in control of the presidency and both houses of Congress from 1993 to 1995 we got ... "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." Gore didn't

mention either the military ban or federal domestic partners legislation in his acceptance speech. The Democratic platform was, at best, vague on both.

My hunch is, once Gore passes hate crimes and employment protection, national gay groups will effectively let him off the hook on the military ban and domestic partners benefits. They will blame the GOP, or the Joint Chiefs, or the alignment of Saturn and Pluto, but not the Democrats. If Scenario #1 transpires, look out for a Clinton redux.

The upshot: Under this most optimistic configuration, hate crimes legislation and ENDA will pass but there will be no repeal of the anti-gay military ban and no meaningful federal domestic partners law.

Scenario #2: Under this potential outcome, Al Gore is elected president yet Republicans retain control of the House or the Senate or both. This is essentially the balance of power in the government since 1994—a Democratic president and the GOP running Congress.

Scenario #2 is the most likely outcome of the election. Gore has to be considered a slight favorite because of the good economy. If he wins, it seems probable De-

mocrats will take the House. The Senate seems less likely to fall to the Democrats.

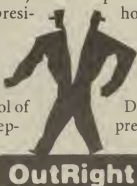
Under Scenario #2, a federal hate crimes law is still a good bet to pass. Since it is the only gay-related item Gore routinely mentions in his campaign, he is more likely to fight for it than anything else on the wish list of national gay organizations. Alone among items on their agendas, hate crimes legislation has significant bipartisan support. Combine that with the fact that Gore will enjoy immense popularity and deference as a new president and I think GOP leaders will have to cave on the issue of hate crimes.

ENDA is less likely to pass under this scenario. Gore almost never mentions it, which suggests it's not much of a priority for him. He has never explained the need for it in his speeches to mainstream audiences, most of whom have no idea what the acronym "ENDA" stands for. Democrats didn't even hold a hearing on a similar bill when they controlled the White House and Congress as recently as six years ago.

Gore will blame GOP opposition in Congress for the failure of ENDA, even though he will devote no political resources or time in the bully pulpit to it.

Under this scenario, you can forget about repealing the ban on gays in the military or passing domestic partners legislation. Democrats will introduce pro forma bills to achieve these goals but they will go nowhere. Gore will do

page 22 ►



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SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1981

And graceful, too

by Jane Warner

100 block of Collingwood, September 27, 7:30 p.m.: A man flagged down a passing police cruiser and pointed to a car parked halfway on the sidewalk mid-block of Collingwood. The car's lights and engine were still on, and the driver was slumped over the wheel. Responding officers saw an open can of Steel Reserve in the cup holder and could smell a strong odor of alcohol coming from the car. When one of the officers asked the driver for his license, he handed over a five dollar bill. When a paramedic helped him out of the car, he urinated on his shoe. The man was placed under arrest for driving under the influence and taken to SF General Hospital where a blood sample was drawn. His vehicle was impounded at City Tow.

No free lunch

Collingwood and 19th, September 27, 5 a.m.: A man reported that he went looking for some action in Collingwood Park, picked up another man, and drove around with the man in his car. After a while, his "date" asked him for money. An argument ensued, and the man ordered the date out of his car, threatening to call 911 on his cell phone. The date grabbed the cell phone out of the

man's hands and beat him over the head with it, causing a cut above his right eye. The suspect, described as an Hispanic male, 30-35 years old, 5 feet 9 inches tall, weighing 150 pounds, wearing a gray baseball cap and plaid shirt, fled the car with the cell phone in hand, running east-bound on 19th Street.

Smooth move

Castro and

Market, September

28, 12:20 p.m.: A

police cruiser pat-

rolled Castro not-

ticed a gray Honda traveling be-

side him. The officer caught the

eye of the driver, who did a double-take, slowed down, and tried to change lanes. Due to the driver's suspicious behavior, the officer ran the license plate of the car and discovered it stolen. The officer effected a traffic stop without incident. The driver said he bought the car for \$350. The driver, who was placed under arrest for auto theft and driving without a license, stated, "How can I get a license if you take my car away?" ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 679-1827.



Got safety? New ads target pedestrians, drivers

by Ed Walsh

The Castro will likely be one of the San Francisco neighborhoods targeted by a new pedestrian safety campaign.

The project will include clocks that countdown the seconds people have left to cross the street, large fluorescent warning signs, and a "Slow It Down" ad campaign urging drivers and pedestrians to be more careful.

"We will be prioritizing and will be looking at doing something at those six-legged intersections at 16th and Market and 17th and Market," said Nick Carr, the pedestrian and bicycle safety coordinator in the San Francisco Department of Parking and Traffic.

Twenty-eight pedestrians have been killed on San Francisco streets this year, including a man who was struck by a car last Monday. A San Francisco gay man, Barry Gumb, 31, was killed August 28 when he was struck by a hit-and-run driver at the 16th/Market/Noe intersection.

That crossing is the most dangerous intersection in the Castro, according to the Department of Parking and Traffic. Ten accidents involving pedestrians were reported there from 1995 to 1999. In that same period, there were nine pedestrian accidents at the 14th/Market/Church intersection and eight at the 17th/Market/Castro crossing.

The intersection of 6th and Mission had the worst accident toll during that same period with

17 reported accidents involving pedestrians. The chairman of the Pedestrian Safety Task Force, Howard Strassner, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the intersection was probably so dangerous because of the large number of intoxicated people who hang out in the area.

This month, four countdown clocks will be installed around City Hall, and 10 others will be installed at other busy intersections in the city. Carr said it hadn't been determined yet whether to put any of those clocks in the Castro.

The pedestrian awareness ad campaign will include several eye-catching posters which will be displayed on Muni buses, bus stop shelters and on taxis. One shows an elderly woman crossing a street with a walker, the caption reads: "I'm sorry I ran over your grandma but I didn't want to spill my latte." Another shows a man jaywalking through traffic with the caption: "I walked in front of your car, and now I'm dead."

The pedestrian awareness campaign is the result of a safety summit that Supervisor Mabel Teng and Assemblyman Kevin Shelley held in May.

The Goodby, Silverstein & Partners agency, the company that created the "Got Milk?" ads agreed to develop the pedestrian safety ads for free. The California State Automobile Association will be picking up the tab for printing costs. The CSAA also agreed to pay for some of the countdown clocks. Various other agencies are donating advertising space. ▼

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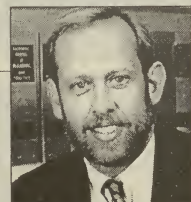
—Howard Wallace, Union Organizer/Gay Activist
S.F. Bay Guardian interview 9/13/00

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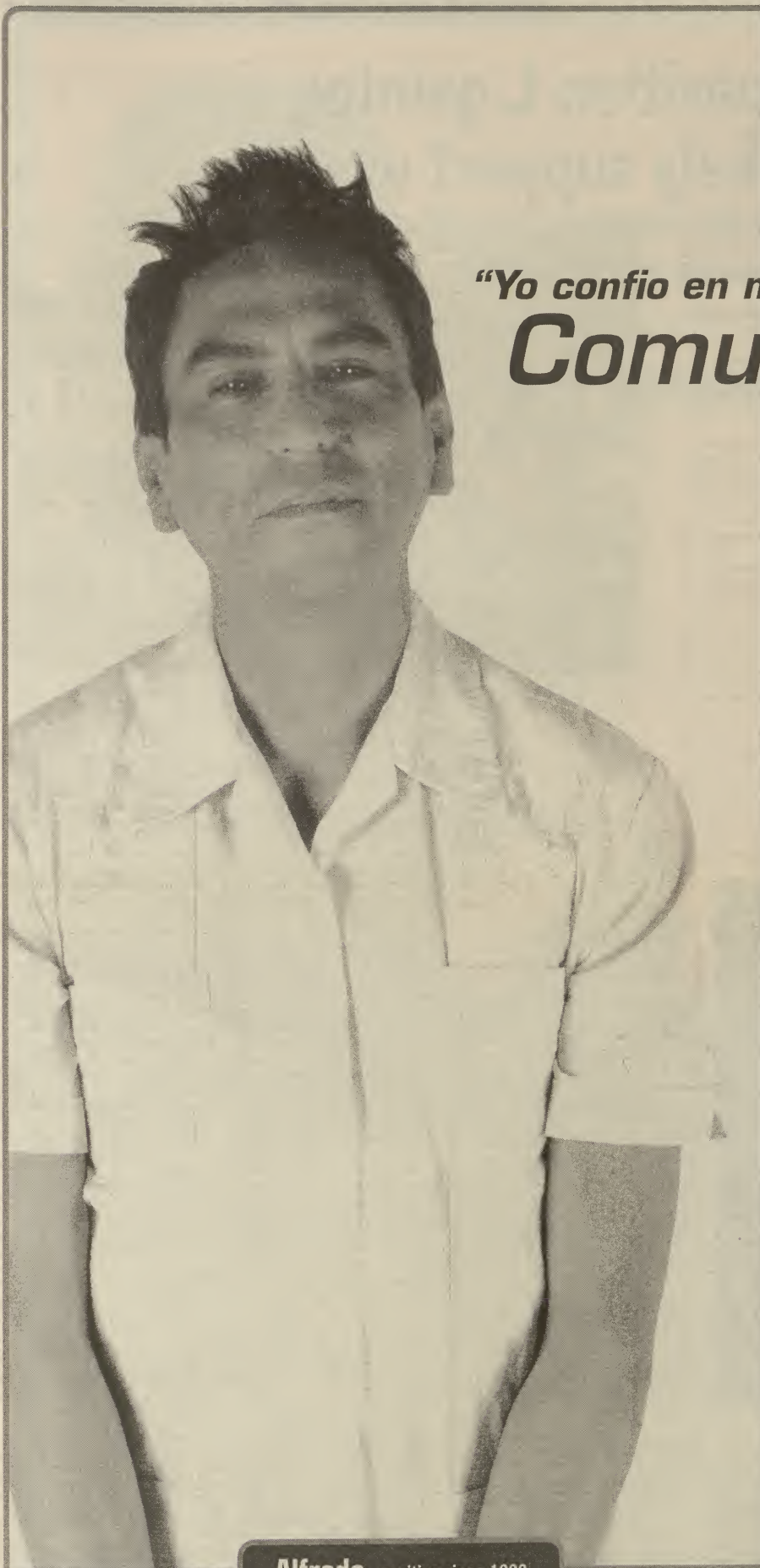


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BAY AREA REPORTER

Proposition L gaining unlikely support over K

by Katie Szymanski

It wasn't a battle that Christine Linnenbach planned to take on.

The attorney, who represents a growing number of residents West of Twin Peaks on a variety of neighborhood issues, soon found, however, that she couldn't remain silent: Proposition K must be defeated, and Proposition L must pass.

It isn't even a simple matter of economics for Linnenbach's clients; most of them are conservative voters who supported Mayor Willie Brown in last year's election. What it comes down to, she said, is a matter of due process, and the conservative people she represents are becoming more and more worried about how the city is being run.

On November 7, San Francisco voters will be asked to choose between two propositions on the ballot: Proposition K, which bills itself as "smart growth" while expanding loopholes that allow for millions of square feet in new construction and creating less public input into the planning process, and Proposition L, which promotes neighborhood control and asks that residents currently swamped with the side effects of big development be given a chance to breathe.

Supporters of Proposition L



Activists rally in support of Proposition L and against Proposition K. There are mobilizations scheduled for every Saturday between now and Election Day. For info, call 863-6566.

want to get the word out that in no uncertain terms should voters favor Proposition K, unless they happen to enjoy eviction and overcrowded Muni busses that already straddle both lanes of traffic. Proposition K was devised by Mayor Brown as a way to tame

those long-term residents, and he makes no secret about it; a few weeks ago, Brown fired Planning Commissioner Dennis Antenore because he would not endorse what he saw as a "giveaway" to developers. A rally was held on September 25 on the steps of City Hall to support Antenore and Proposition L, an event that grew out of the growing discomfort that anyone in opposition to the mayor will be silenced, according to Linnenbach.

"I hadn't even taken an active role in the Proposition L campaign," said Linnenbach. "But after Dennis was fired, I had to. If you can't encourage debate, then we're not coming up with creative solutions to our problems. We're letting private businesses come in and say what they want the mayor to do for them. That's not a democratic process."

It's not even that Linnenbach is anti-business, nor are her clients, who have reaped some benefits off the booming economy. But Proposition K, she said, does not plan for the future and instead will attract 60,000 new workers — many from outside the city — without adding any safeguards for people already living here.

"Nobody wants the building in San Francisco to come to a grinding halt," said Linnenbach. "We're talking about responsibility, an open process, and god, just being able to find a parking space. We won't be able to bring business to San Francisco if the city doesn't work. And it doesn't take a genius to figure out that if your Muni's not working and no cars can get from point A to point B, then this won't be a desirable place to come."

Linnenbach would rather campaign for Proposition L, she said, than wait for the consequences of unfettered growth.

"In the end, it will be the taxpayers who are left to clean up the mess," she said, "while the developers have already sold their property and taken their profits to god knows where else."

Even if you're in favor of big development, notes Linnenbach, it's important to realize that Proposition L still allows office

space to double within the next year. It is also important to look at the tiny details of Proposition K and how they change existing city policy, repealing the power of district-elected officials, and creating yet another public office accountable to no outside body. Under Proposition K, a "Growth Czar" is created and appointed, whose first task is to scour each neighborhood for more building projects. The czar will be accountable to nobody, especially under Proposition K's guidelines that call for the Board of Supervisors to no longer have the power to limit commercial development. That means even those residents already benefiting from big projects could wake up tomorrow to a bulldozer outside their bedroom with no form of recourse.

For Linnenbach and her clients, the issue goes far beyond opposing too much construction and the policies that have earned San Francisco the nickname of "city for sale."

"For one thing, there's the children. I was recently at a dance club in a drug-free environment for kids, and I realized that they were at risk of displacement, too. So anyone who is saying in their campaigns that they 'care about kids,' better support Proposition L, so they'll have a safe place to go. These are the issues that matter to people."

"I think the administration will be very surprised to find the amount of conservative support going to Proposition L," said Linnenbach. "People are beginning to smell a rat."

Proposition L is endorsed by Supervisors Tom Ammiano, Sue Bierman, and Mark Leno; former Supervisors Angela Alioto and Harry Britt; Carol Ruth Silver who was a supervisor and is running again in District 6; and San Francisco Sheriff Michael Hennessey; not to mention a large list of political, recreational, labor, and religious groups, and an even bigger collection of high-profile individuals.

Proposition K is endorsed by Mayor Brown, Supervisors Leslie Katz and Alicia Becerra, and a host of profitable developers. ▼



Hey, Hey! It's a Gay Matinee

at the
San Francisco Public Library
(100 Larkin Street)

Gay Life and the James C. Hormel
Gay & Lesbian Center
present
Saturday Afternoon Films in October

Saturday, October 7, 2000

1:00PM in the Koret Auditorium

4 Short Films from the Hormel Collection and Frameline Films.

"C.U.M. [Conventional Urge Management]"

"Destroying Angel"
Best Experimental Film — Chicago Lesbian & Gay International Film Festival

"The Dead Boys Club"
Best Short — San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival

"Deaf Heaven"
Short Presentation and Q & A with Jim Van Bus Kirk, James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center Program Manager and Frameline Films Board Member.

Saturday, October 14, 2000

1:00PM in the Koret Auditorium

A video chronicling real issues of Gay Men in San Francisco by Gay Life at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

"Days of Our Gay Lives, DGL: The Movie", the video soap opera ripped from the lives of actual gay men.

Short Presentation and Q & A with Scott T. Moore, Gay Life Activities Manager and Robert Giannasca, James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center Program Coordinator.

Saturday, October 21, 2000

1:00PM in the Koret Auditorium

P.J. Castellana's first full feature.

"Together Alone"
Best Feature — San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival

Short Presentation and Q & A with Brian Byrnes, HIV Prevention Director, San Francisco AIDS Foundation.



Gay Life, promoting Gay men's sexual health and emotional well-being. Gay Life is a program of the San Francisco's AIDS Foundation.

Call Gay Life for more information and reservations at 415.788.LIFE
or visit www.gaylife.org.

"ZERIT is the #1 prescribed HIV brand in combination therapy. I gotta believe it can work for me. I'm positive."

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#1 prescribed HIV brand in combination therapy

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SAFETY INFORMATION:

There have been cases of acid buildup in the blood and enlarged liver, including fatal cases. Fatal and non-fatal pancreatitis has occurred when ZERIT was part of a combination regimen that included didanosine, with or without hydroxyurea.

ZERIT may cause numbness, tingling or pain in the hands or feet (neuropathy). This risk is increased in patients with advanced HIV disease or a history of neuropathy. If this occurs, your doctor may suggest lowering the dose or stopping ZERIT to improve symptoms. Patients treated with ZERIT in combination with other medicines that may cause similar side effects may have a higher chance of developing these side effects. The most frequent side effects are nausea, diarrhea, headache, rash and neuropathy. ZERIT does not cure HIV infection or prevent passing HIV to others. ZERIT, in combination with other antiretroviral agents, is indicated for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.

1) 83% (49/59) and 49% (49/101) of patients taking ZERIT with lamivudine and didanosine had viral load undetectable at 48 weeks in an as-treated and intent to treat analysis respectively (START 1. Data on file, Bristol-Myers Squibb).
2) IMS NPA Prescription Data 4/99 - 4/00.

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WARNING
LACTIC ACIDOSIS AND SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS, INCLUDING FATAL CASES, HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH THE USE OF NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES ALONE OR IN COMBINATION, INCLUDING STAVUDINE AND OTHER ANTIRETROVIRALS (SEE WARNINGS).

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ZERIT® (stavudine), in combination with other antiretroviral agents, is indicated for the treatment of HIV-1 infection (see CLINICAL STUDIES).

CLINICAL STUDIES

Combination Therapy: The combination use of ZERIT is based on the results of clinical studies in HIV-infected patients in double- and triple-combination regimens with other antiretroviral agents.

One of these studies (START 1) was a multicenter, randomized, open-label study comparing ZERIT (40 mg BID) plus lamivudine plus didanosine to zidovudine plus lamivudine plus didanosine in 202 treatment-naïve patients. Both regimens resulted in a similar magnitude of inhibition of HIV RNA levels and increases in CD4 cell counts through 48 weeks.

Monotherapy: The efficacy of ZERIT was demonstrated in a randomized, double-blind study (A455-019, conducted 1992-1994) comparing ZERIT with zidovudine in 822 patients with a spectrum of HIV-related symptoms. The outcome in terms of progression of HIV disease and death was similar for both drugs.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

ZERIT is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to stavudine or any of the components contained in the formulation.

WARNINGS

1. Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis: Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including stavudine and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. Particular caution should be exercised when administering ZERIT to any patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with ZERIT should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations).

2. Peripheral Neuropathy: Peripheral neuropathy, manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the hands or feet, has been reported in patients receiving ZERIT therapy. Peripheral neuropathy has occurred more frequently in patients with advanced HIV disease, a history of neuropathy, or concurrent neurotoxic drug therapy, including didanosine (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

PRECAUTIONS

Information for Patients: Patients should be informed that an important toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be aware that peripheral neuropathy is manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in hands or feet, and that these symptoms should be reported to their physicians. Patients should be counseled that peripheral neuropathy occurs with greatest frequency in patients who have advanced HIV disease or a history of peripheral neuropathy, and that dose modification and/or discontinuation of ZERIT may be required if toxicity develops.

Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy.

Patients should be informed that when ZERIT is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of adverse events may be higher than when ZERIT is used alone. These patients should be followed closely.

Patients should be informed that ZERIT is not a cure for HIV infection, and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using ZERIT. They should be advised that ZERIT therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time.

Patients should be informed that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that HIV-infected mothers not nurse newborn infants to reduce the risk of postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Drug Interactions: Zidovudine may competitively inhibit the intracellular phosphorylation of stavudine. Therefore, use of zidovudine in combination with ZERIT is not recommended. (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY.)

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: In 2-year carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats, stavudine was noncarcinogenic at doses which produced exposures (AUC) 39 and 165 times, respectively, human exposure at the recommended clinical dose. Benign and malignant liver tumors in mice and rats and malignant urinary bladder tumors in male rats occurred at levels of exposure 250 (mice) and 132 (rats) times human exposure at the recommended clinical dose. Stavudine was not mutagenic in the Ames, *E. coli* reverse mutation, or the CHO/HGPRT mammalian cell forward gene mutation assays, with and without metabolic activation. Stavudine produced positive results in the *in vitro* human lymphocyte clastogenesis and mouse fibroblast assays, and in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. In the *in vitro* assays, stavudine elevated the frequency of chromosome aberrations in human lymphocytes (concentrations of 25 to 250 µg/mL, without metabolic activation) and increased the frequency of transformed foci in mouse fibroblast cells (concentrations of 25 to 2500 µg/mL, with and without metabolic activation). In the *in vivo* micronucleus assay, stavudine was clastogenic in bone marrow cells following oral stavudine administration to mice at dosages of 600 to 2000 mg/kg/day for 3 days.

No evidence of impaired fertility was seen in rats with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 216 times that observed following a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy "Category C." Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 399 and 183 times, respectively, of that seen at a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. The incidence in fetuses of a common skeletal variation, unossified or incomplete ossification of sternebra, was increased in rats at 399 times human exposure, while no effect was observed at 216 times human exposure. A slight post-implantation loss was noted at 216 times the human exposure with no effect noted at approximately 135 times the human exposure. An increase in early rat neonatal mortality (birth to 4 days of age) occurred at 399 times the human exposure, while survival of neonates was unaffected at approximately 135 times the human exposure. A study in rats showed that stavudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. The concentration in fetal tissue was approximately one-half the concentration in maternal plasma. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, stavudine should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to stavudine and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling (800) 258-4263.

Nursing Mothers: Studies in lactating rats demonstrated that stavudine is excreted in milk. Although it is not known whether stavudine is excreted in human milk, there exists the potential for adverse effects from stavudine in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed to discontinue nursing if they are receiving stavudine. This instruction is consistent with the Centers for Disease Control recommendation that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Pediatric Use: Use of stavudine in pediatric patients is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of stavudine in adults with additional pharmacokinetic and safety data in pediatric patients.

Adverse events that were reported to occur in 105 pediatric patients receiving

ZERIT (stavudine) 2 mg/kg/day for a median of 6.4 months in study ACTG 240 were generally similar to those reported in adults.

Stavudine pharmacokinetics have been evaluated in 25 HIV-infected pediatric patients ranging in age from 5 weeks to 15 years and in weight from 2 to 43 kg after I.V. or oral administration of single doses and BID regimens (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Table 1 in full prescribing information).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Adults: ZERIT therapy has been associated with peripheral neuropathy, which can be severe, is dose related, and occurs more frequently in patients being treated with neurotoxic drug therapy, including didanosine, in patients with advanced HIV infection, or in patients who have previously experienced peripheral neuropathy.

Patients should be monitored for the development of neuropathy, which is usually manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. Stavudine-related peripheral neuropathy may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, patients may tolerate resumption of treatment at one-half the dose (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). If neuropathy recurs after resumption of ZERIT, permanent discontinuation of ZERIT should be considered.

When ZERIT is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of adverse events may be higher than when ZERIT is used alone. Patients treated with ZERIT in combination with didanosine may be at increased risk for adverse events such as pancreatitis, peripheral neuropathy, and liver function abnormalities. (See WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS.)

Selected clinical events that occurred in adult patients receiving ZERIT in a controlled monotherapy trial (Study A455-019) are provided in Table 1.

Adverse Events	Percent (%)	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
Headache	54	49
Diarrhea	50	44
Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy	52	39
Rash	40	35
Nausea and Vomiting	39	44

* Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

Pancreatitis was observed in three of the 412 adult patients who received ZERIT in a controlled monotherapy study.

Selected clinical adverse events that occurred in antiretroviral naïve adult patients receiving ZERIT from two controlled combination studies are provided in Table 2.

Adverse Events	Percent (%)			
	START 1		START 2	
	ZERIT+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=100)*	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)	ZERIT+ didanosine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)*	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=103)
Nausea	43	63	53	67
Diarrhea	34	16	45	39
Headache	25	26	46	37
Rash	18	13	30	18
Vomiting	18	33	30	35
Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy	8	7	21	10

* START 2 compared two triple-combination regimens in 205 treatment-naïve patients. Patients received either ZERIT (40 mg BID) plus didanosine plus lamivudine or zidovudine plus lamivudine plus indinavir.

* Duration of stavudine therapy = 48 weeks.

Pancreatitis resulting in death was observed in one patient who received ZERIT plus didanosine plus lamivudine in the START 2 study.

Selected laboratory abnormalities reported in a controlled monotherapy study (Study A455-019) are provided in Table 3.

Parameter	Percent (%)	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
AST (SGOT) (>5.0 x ULN)	11	10
ALT (SGPT) (>5.0 x ULN)	13	11
Amplase (≥1.4 x ULN)	14	13

* Data presented for patients for whom laboratory evaluations were performed.

* Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

ULN = upper limit of normal.

Selected laboratory abnormalities reported in two controlled combination studies are provided in Tables 4 and 5.

Parameter	Percent of Patients			
	START 1		START 2	
	ZERIT+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=100)	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)	ZERIT+ didanosine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=103)
Bilirubin (>2.6 x ULN)	7	6	15	8
SGOT (AST) (>5 x ULN)	5	2	7	5
SGPT (ALT) (>5 x ULN)	6	2	8	5
GGT (>5 x ULN)	2	2	5	2
Lipase (>2 x ULN)	6	3	5	5
Amplase (>2 x ULN)	4	<1	8	2

ULN = upper limit of normal.

Parameter	Percent (%)			
	START 1		START 2	
	ZERIT+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=100)	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)	ZERIT+ didanosine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=103)

Parameter	Percent (%)			
	START 1		START 2	
	ZERIT+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=100)	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)	ZERIT+ didanosine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=103)
Total Bilirubin	65	60	68	55
SGOT (AST)	42	20	53	20
SGPT (ALT)	40	20	50	18
GGT	15	8	28	12
Lipase	27	12	26	19
Amplase	21	19	31	17

Observed During Clinical Practice: The following events have been identified during post-approval use of ZERIT (stavudine). Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to their seriousness, frequency of reporting, causal connection to ZERIT, or a combination of these factors.

Body as a Whole: abdominal pain, allergic reaction, and chills/fever.

Digestive Disorders: anorexia.

Hematologic Disorders: anemia, leukopenia, and thrombocytopenia.

Liver: lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), hepatitis and liver failure.

Musculoskeletal: myalgia.

Nervous: insomnia.

Pediatric Patients: Adverse reactions and serious laboratory abnormalities in pediatric patients were similar in type and frequency to those seen in adult patients.

OVERDOSAGE

Experience with adults treated with 12 to 24 times the recommended daily dosage revealed no acute toxicity. Complications of chronic overdosage include peripheral neuropathy and hepatic toxicity. Stavudine can be removed by hemodialysis; the mean \pm SD hemodialysis clearance of stavudine is 120 ± 18 mL/min. Whether stavudine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis has not been studied.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The interval between doses of ZERIT should be 12 hours. ZERIT may be taken without regard to meals.

Adults: The recommended dose based on body weight is as follows:

40 mg twice daily for patients ≥ 60 kg.
 30 mg twice daily for patients < 60 kg.

Pediatrics: The recommended dose for pediatric patients weighing less than 30 kg is 1 mg/kg/dose, given every 12 hours. Pediatric patients weighing 30 kg or greater should receive the recommended adult dosage.

Dosage Adjustment: Patients should be monitored for the development of peripheral neuropathy, which is usually manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. These symptoms may be difficult to detect in young children (see WARNINGS). If these symptoms develop during treatment, stavudine therapy should be interrupted. Symptoms may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, patients may tolerate resumption of treatment at one-half the recommended dose.

20 mg twice daily for patients ≥ 60 kg.
 15 mg twice daily for patients < 60 kg.

If neuropathy recurs after resumption of ZERIT, permanent discontinuation of ZERIT should be considered.

Renal Impairment: ZERIT may be administered to adult patients with impaired renal function with adjustment in dose as shown in Table 6.

Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)	Recommended ZERIT Dose by Patient Weight	
	≥ 60 kg	< 60 kg
> 50	40 mg every 12 hours	30 mg every 12 hours
26-50	20 mg every 12 hours	15 mg every 12 hours
10-25	20 mg every 24 hours	15 mg every 24 hours

Since urinary excretion is also a major route of elimination of stavudine in pediatric patients, the clearance of stavudine may be altered in children with renal impairment. Although there are insufficient data to recommend a specific dose adjustment of ZERIT in this patient population, a reduction in the dose and/or an increase in the interval between doses should be considered.

Hemodialysis Patients: The recommended dose is 20 mg every 24 hours (≥ 60 kg) or 15 mg every 24 hours (< 60 kg), administered after the completion of hemodialysis and at the same time of day on non-dialysis days.

Method of Preparation**ZERIT (stavudine) for Oral Solution**

Prior to dispensing, the pharmacist must constitute the dry powder with purified water to a concentration of 1 mg stavudine per mL of solution, as follows:

1. Add 202 mL of purified water to the container.
2. Shake container vigorously until the powder dissolves completely. Constitution in this way produces 200 mL (deliverable volume) of 1 mg/mL stavudine solution. The solution may appear slightly hazy.
3. Dispense solution in original container with measuring cup provided. Instruct patient to shake the container vigorously prior to measuring each dose and to store the tightly closed container in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.

HOW SUPPLIED

ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules are available in the following strengths and configurations of plastic bottles with child-resistant closures:

Product Strength	Capsule Shell Color	Markings on Capsule (in Black Ink)	Capsules per Bottle	NDC No.
15 mg	Light yellow & dark red	BMS 1964	15	0003-1964-01
20 mg	Light brown	BMS 1965	20	0003-1965-01
30 mg	Light orange & dark orange	BMS 1966	30	0003-1966-01
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967	40	0003-1967-01

ZERIT® (stavudine) for Oral Solution is a dye-free, fruit-flavored powder that provides 1 mg of stavudine per mL of solution upon constitution with water. Directions for solution preparation are included on the product label and in the DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION section of this insert. ZERIT for Oral Solution (NDC No. 0003-1968-01) is available in child-resistant containers that provide 200 mL of solution after constitution with water.

US Patent No. 4,978,655

Storage: ZERIT Capsules should be stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C).

ZERIT for Oral Solution should be protected from excessive moisture and stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). After constitution, store tightly closed containers of ZERIT for Oral Solution in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.



Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
 Princeton, NJ 08543
 USA

F9-B001A-B-99
 Printed USA

Adapted from 1017718A4
 Revised August 1999

NATIONAL NEWS

Roanoke recovers from shooting

by Bob Roehr

The community of Roanoke mourned and got back to living life in the days following the shooting rampage in the Backstreet Café, one of only two gay bars in the southwestern Virginia town. The September 22 incident left one man dead and six people hospitalized.

Danny Lee Overstreet, 43, was hit in the chest in the flurry of bullets and died within seconds. His charming flamboyance was celebrated in a service on September 27.

"He had an infectious laugh," said his 17-year-old niece, Misty Overstreet. He sometimes did drag under the name "Iwanna," and often donated money to animal welfare organizations.

Coworkers at Verizon (formally Bell Atlantic) recalled how the

rotund former beautician would remind them when it was time to get their roots dyed. Or how he would sometimes bring his champagne-colored poodle to work wearing a leopard-skin coat.

Page Webb remains hospitalized in serious condition with a bullet wound in the neck. John Collins went home after being shot in the stomach. He must use a colostomy bag while his colon heals. It will be three months before the doctors know if he must use the bag permanently or if additional surgery will be able to restore use of his large intestine.

Local and national gay organizations have put pressure on Virginia Republican Senator John Warner to support hate crimes legislation attached to the Defense Department authorization bill. Warner has been reluctant to do so because he is trying to hold the line against all non-defense

amendments to the measure.

The triggerman

Ronald Edward Gay, 54, the confessed shooter, was indicted by a grand jury on October 2. Charges include the first-degree murder of Overstreet, six counts of aggravated malicious wounding, and one count of shooting into an occupied building. The cumulative prison time could total 180 years. The trial is set for January, though there is reason to believe that he will not be found competent to stand trial.

The picture of Gay that continues to emerge is one of a deeply troubled man with a history of treatment for psychiatric illness. The turning point was service in the Marines in Vietnam in 1968 where Gay had to gather the charred remains of seven men of his platoon blown to pieces when their truck struck a land mine.

Gay returned from the war a different man. One who allegedly drank too much, heard voices in his head, wandered back and forth from Virginia, to his birth home in Nova Scotia, to Florida, and went through at least five failed marriages.

He was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and prescribed the anti-depressant Prozac and the anti-anxiety drug Clonipin. By 1992 he was receiving full disability from the Veterans Administration.

Gay's children changed their last names, in part because their father was absent, and in part because of the growing association of the word with the homosexual community. At times Gay railed against this combination of events, a fact which GLBT community leaders point to in calling the shooting an anti-gay hate crime.

But family and friends who know him best say that Gay is not anti-gay. In an interview with the *Roanoke Times*, Laura Ramsey, who became Gay's fourth wife in 1994, said that she was in a lesbian relationship when they met. Gay was accepting of the fact. "He wasn't homophobic," she said. The couple's social circle included gays and lesbians.

On Father's Day of this year, Gay

burst into Ramsey's Florida home demanding to see their son. He said he would shoot Ramsey and her current husband, but left before the police arrived. A judge ordered Gay to surrender his weapons and undergo psychiatric evaluation. Neither seems to have occurred.

Ramsey said the problems arise when Gay is not on his medications.

Community renewal

The shooting has been a catalyst for the Roanoke LGBT community. A new group, the Hate Free Roanoke Task Force, formed to coordinate a response. It is pushing for state and federal hate crimes legislation, and coordinated a series of vigils outside the bar and elsewhere.

There is revived talk of creating a gay and lesbian community center to serve the scattered population.

The Backstreet Café reopened on Sunday, October 1. "This is our home, I can't let Ronald Gay take that away from me," said Sue Stroud. She was shooting pool when the bullets started flying. "I've got to focus on the positive, the good. I've got to take back my bar."

"We felt like it was time," said manager Alan Blankship. "We missed our family." ▼

Gay murder

◀ page 1

100-acre campus itself is a tranquil security zone with only one controlled entrance after 6 p.m. Access to dorm buildings is through an electronic key card system.

Arrest made

On Tuesday, October 3, police arrested a fellow student in connection with the murder. Thomas Minch, 18, of Greenland, New Hampshire, was charged with second-degree murder in the death of Plunkett.

Police said the men had a personal dispute that erupted in a fight that led to Plunkett's death.

Plunkett, 19, was a freshman from the Minneapolis suburbs. He had cerebral palsy and lived alone in a first floor dorm room. On campus only a month, Plunkett had impressed people with his friendliness and energy. He was elected secretary of the Lambda Society a few days before his

death. The group has about 70 gay and straight members.

Initial reports mentioned Plunkett's involvement with Lambda yet gave little indication that his death might be an anti-gay hate crime. But that notion gained credence with each passing day.

"We are fearful," said Thomas Green, president of Lambda. "This happened on campus, it could happen again." He said that anti-gay slurs had appeared on dormitory memo boards in the weeks preceding Plunkett's murder.

Soon after the body was found, Green observed one student saying in sign language, "Good, one less fag." His companion smiled and signed his approval.

These incidents, coupled with little information from the police, have fed a paranoia among gays and lesbians on the campus. Lambda members attended a self-defense workshop on Sunday and are considering creating a "buddy system" as a means of protection.

Student government president

Chris Soukup tried to downplay any anti-gay feeling on campus. He said that it probably exists to the same extent as it does on any other American college campus.

Lambda's Green and another student have met with the Human Rights Campaign to discuss their concerns. They are scheduled to meet with University President I. King Jordan. The administration has proclaimed the university "an open community" that does not discriminate.

A candlelight vigil for Plunkett was held on campus last Friday evening, the night after his body was discovered. He was buried in Minnesota on October 4. A memorial service is scheduled at Gallaudet for October 6.

Plunkett's death is the second on the East Coast in as many weeks. On September 22, gay Virginia resident Danny Overstreet was gunned down at a gay bar, allegedly by suspect Ronald Gay, who had long resented being teased over his last name. ▼

Dittenhafer

◀ page 1

rural Pennsylvania, where he said that he experienced intolerance and discrimination from an early age and into his college years.

"I was not the most accepted individual," Dittenhafer told the *Bay Area Reporter* in an October 3 telephone interview. "Even in college there were problems in the dorm, [things like] signs saying 'No Fags Allowed.'"

He left college before graduation, moving to San Francisco "because it accepts and encourages diversity while offering cultural and economic opportunities," according to his official biography on his campaign Web site (DittenhaferForDist6.org). "After almost 20 years, I want to make sure that the opportunities that drew me here stay open for all city residents."

An employee of Wells Fargo Bank since 1989, Dittenhafer currently holds the post of vice president and manager of the bank's branches in West Portal and Noe Valley.

One of several LGBT candidates running in District 6, Dittenhafer said his experience working as a community liaison for the bank, on the Taxi Commission, as

president of the San Francisco Council of District Merchants, and other boards and community groups gives him the experience he needs to be a leader.

"We don't always agree," Dittenhafer said of Brown, adding that if he is elected supervisor, he would work with the mayor to try to work out compromises on controversial issues.

"The key here is being a leader in the community," he said. "The bottom line for me is it's about making the quality of life better for the residents."

Asked to specify whether he disagrees with the mayor on any of the city ballot initiatives, Dittenhafer said that he hadn't taken a position on Proposition I, which the mayor supports, because "there's a concern that it will increase payroll taxes," disproportionately affecting mid-sized businesses.

However, according to a listing of the candidate's positions on the propositions faxed from the Lew Edwards Group, Dittenhafer's campaign supports the mayor's position on Proposition I.

The October 3 facsimile from campaign co-manager Michael Perri also indicated that Dittenhafer is undecided on the Ralph Nader-backed Proposition J, which would ban city officials from accepting money, gifts, or

jobs from anyone who has benefited from that official's actions.

On Tuesday, however, Dittenhafer could not recall whether he had taken a stand on Proposition J.

Perri and campaign co-manager Kristin Haffert work for the Oakland-based Lew Edwards Group, the political consultant firm that Dittenhafer said he had hired to run his campaign. The group helped millionaire businessman Clint Reilly with field organizing in last year's general election campaign for mayor.

The November ballot is loaded with controversial issues, however, and Dittenhafer apparently agrees with the mayor on more of the ballot propositions than even he realizes, including competing Propositions K and L (see story, page 14).

"I am supporting K because I believe that we need to moderate growth at the same time that we want to encourage economic opportunity," he said. "Up to now we have had spotted growth..."

Dittenhafer promises "real solutions to the displacement problems" affecting tenants and non-profit organizations in the city, he said.

Mayor Brown recently fired Dennis Antenor from the Planning Commission for refusing to

page 23 ▶

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Rebecca Kaplan heads to debate Friday

by Cynthia Laird

Openly lesbian candidate Rebecca Kaplan, who's running for the at-large seat on the Oakland City Council, has been busy campaigning in her battle to unseat incumbent Councilmember Henry Chang. The two candidates will square off this Friday, October 6, at a League of Women Voters-sponsored debate at Oakland City Hall, starting at 7 p.m.

Kaplan, who was endorsed earlier this year by the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, attended a small reception last Sunday in Oakland and said the campaign is going well. Kaplan has numerous events in the next several weeks leading up to the November 7 election.

This Sunday, October 8, she will speak at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 528 33rd Street, at 11:30 a.m. On Monday, October 16, there's a candidate forum at 3245 Sheffield Avenue; Kaplan will speak from 7:45 to 8:15 p.m. On Saturday, October 21, Kaplan will participate in a candidate forum at Allen Temple Baptist Church, 8501 International Boulevard, from 10 a.m. until noon. Also on October 21, the band Rebecca Riots, singer Gwen Avery, and others will perform at a fundraising concert. For details, go to www.rebecca-at-large.org. On Thursday, October 26, Ka-



Rebecca Kaplan, third from right, chats with supporters at an October 1 Victory Fund reception.

plan will participate at a candidate forum in West Oakland from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Lowell Middle School. Sunday, October 29 will see Kaplan participate in the *Dia De Los Muertos* festival in the Fruitvale District.

Kaplan's also looking for cam-

paign volunteers to help with a big precinct mobilization the weekend before the election, Saturday, November 4 and Sunday, November 5.

To contact the campaign, check out the Web site or call (510) 465-5193. ▼

Victory Foundation candidate training announced

by Terry Beswick

It's probably too late for the ever-growing list of openly lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender San Franciscans running for supervisor — estimated at last count to be about 21 — but for those who are thinking about running for public office, the Victory Foundation's upcoming training may be just what you need.

Scheduled to begin Thursday, October 12 and continuing through Sunday, October 15 at the Oakland Airport Holiday Inn, the Gay and Lesbian Victory Foundation's western regional training conference is set to train a new cadre of queers who have heard "the call."

Sister to the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, which gives financial and organizational assistance to LGBT candidates for public office, the Victory Foundation is a national public interest and educational organization working to counter discrimination based on sexual orientation in the public sphere.

More than 600 local leaders, including Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica), are among the alumni of Washington, D.C.-based Victory Foundation's training institutes since the in-depth seminars began in 1993. Designed to "educate local gay and lesbian community leaders about the political process and give them the skills they need to seek public office," the nonpartisan trainings aim to give a well-rounded recipe for future electoral victory.

"After attending one of our victory training institutes earlier this year, Karla Drenner of Georgia went on to win her primary and is now well on her way to becoming the first openly gay or lesbian state legislator in the Southeast," noted Brian K. Bond, Victory Fund executive director. "We want to bring results like that to the West. Help-

ing gay and lesbian community leaders successfully enter public service is key to our movement for equality. The Victory Foundation is committed to training tomorrow's leaders today, and I am looking forward to seeing what this next session's participants will go on to accomplish for our community."

The foundation is seeking applicants now, and according to the organization's first regional office — which just opened in San Francisco's Mission District — there are a few slots still open. Over two dozen people are expected to enroll in the four-day series of 22 workshops. There is no fee to apply, though there is a \$400 tuition for enrollees.

Openly gay and lesbian elected officials, including San Francisco Treasurer Susan Leal and Long Beach Vice Mayor Dan Baker, will be among the training's featured speakers.

"The skills-building workshops we present help our community's best and brightest learn exactly what they need to know to seek public office," said Tony Esoldo, the Victory Foundation's strategy and program director. "On issues such as volunteer recruitment, voter registration, field organizing, fundraising, and countering homophobia on the campaign trail, expert trainers will address everything that participants need to consider when mounting a serious attempt to enter public service."

"We have a lot of candidates in California, and there's a lot of potential here," said Esoldo. "That's why we opened our first filed office here."

People interested in applying to participate in the training can call Tony Esoldo at (415) 701-8428, e-mail him at tony_victory@yahoo.com or apply through the Victory Foundation's Web site at www.victoryfund.org/foundation. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Love talks at lesbian cancer conference

by Bob Roehr

Medicine is a work in progress, I think we lose sight of that," said Dr. Susan Love. Facts come piecemeal and "we extrapolate from a little bite of data as if it is the whole answer. And it isn't." The revered author of *The Breast Book* was speaking at the closing session of Healing Works: The First National Conference on Lesbians and Cancer, held recently in Washington, D.C.

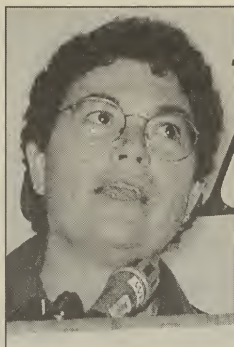
"You can't necessarily [assert] a cause and effect just because you observe two things together," she said. "It's like saying, all heroin addicts drank milk as babies, therefore drinking milk as a baby cause heroin addiction. Probably not."

It also is important not to assume that findings in animal studies translate into the same results in humans, Love said. "We've been curing cancer in rats for 20 years. If the problem were cancer in rats, we could close up our tents and go home."

Love is excited by two important trends in all cancers that she believes "are beginning of the end of cancer." One is the movement away from diagnosis and treatment to prediction and prevention. Most breast cancers have been developing for eight to 10 years by the time they become detectable using current methods. That often is not early enough.

She explained that all cancers "are caused by screwed up genes." Some are inherited from parents, others are created by environmental factors ranging from a virus, to hormones, to exposure to toxic chemicals. One group of genes runs "quality control" on cellular DNA when it is about to divide to form a new cell, another group repairs those damages. Failure of either type of gene can lead to cancer.

The BRC-1 and BRC-2 genes,



Dr. Susan Love

responsible for about 10 percent of all breast cancers, seem to be repair genes for radiation mutations, Love said. "So maybe a little bit of radiation that normally wouldn't really screw you up, if you can't repair that damage, then has much greater consequences."

These developments led Love to add a completely new chapter on molecular biology to the third edition of *The Breast Book*, officially released at the end of September.

If medicine can figure out ways to test for genetic mutations and perhaps even fix them, "that will go a long way to not ending up with cancer."

Love has developed "a little tiny catheter, about the size of a hair," that can be threaded through small openings in the nipple to gather cells from inside the milk duct, the place where all breast cancer begins. These cells can be analyzed to spot signs of dysfunction long before a cancerous mass can be detected through physical examination or imaging technology such as X-rays.

She compared the process to PAP smears, where early detection

of abnormal cells can lead to more effective therapy that does not allow true cancer to develop. The procedure has been approved by the FDA and is available at a limited number of centers. (See www.SusanLoveMD.com for a list of sites.)

"I'm excited about it for women who are at risk, or who have breast cancer in one breast and want to see what is going on in the other breast," she said.

The procedure also will be an important tool for research. "Whatever we eat goes into the breast milk," Love said. She used examples of alcohol and spicy food and how they affect a nursing infant. "Maybe pesticides get concentrated there [in the milk duct] and just sit around, I don't know, that's a pure hypothesis."

Treatment for cancer "is going beyond slash, burn, and poison," Love said. The shift will be from killing to controlling cells that are dysfunctional. "Maybe we can rehabilitate at least some of them."

Therapies also will become more targeted. They include anti-angiogenesis agents that prevent the formation of new blood vessels that tumors need for their growth. Genetically modified viruses that multiply only in cancerous cells and not in healthy ones are being used to kill head and neck cancers. The principle seems likely to apply to other forms of cancer.

"This isn't fantasy land," said Love. These are in clinical trials and are likely to be widely available in a few years. "I'm very excited," she said. "We are going to see a whole revolution in [treating] breast cancer and all cancers. We are going to avoid getting it in the first place, and then those people who are unlucky enough to get it, we are going to have much better ways of treating it and controlling it than we do now." ▼



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Governor vetoes, signs LGBT legislation

by Katie Szymanski

Within days of vetoing a transgender bill that simply clarified current law, Governor Gray Davis vetoed three domestic partner bills last week, one of which also did nothing but make clear what is already on the books.

Critics of the governor seem to think that perhaps Davis is beyond the point of reading the bills that come to his desk, since his reasons for vetoing them have cited functions of bills that are not part of the legislation, and have also mentioned opposition to laws that passed long ago.

Whatever his logic, however, the fact remains that not a single

domestic partnership bill this year has gone without his veto, including the most recent fatalities, AB2421, SB1149, and SB1410.

AB2421, by Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco), was a "clean-up bill," one that added language to specify that when it came to heterosexual couples, only one of them had to be over the age of 62 to qualify. That legislation is now dead.

So is SB1149, by Senator Tom Hayden (D-Los Angeles), which would have expanded the Family Rights Act of 1991 and allowed employees at large companies to take family and medical leave to care for an ill adult child, grandparent, sibling, or domestic partner. A similar bill was vetoed earlier this year because it was broad

and included non-family members, but it appears that the more narrow bill, re-written to fit Davis's previous requirements, wasn't good enough either.

Finally, SB1410 was vetoed; the bill, authored by Senator Jackie Speier (D-Hillsborough), would have allowed the county of San Mateo to offer retirement benefits to the domestic partners of retirees. This bill, however, made sweeping changes to the process by which state and local governments currently provide retirement benefits by eliminating a penalty for non-spousal payments; a new procedure that would have greatly increased the cost of distributing the benefits.

On the brighter side, however,

page 20 ►

National Coming Out Day is Wednesday

by Katie Szymanski

It's that time of year once again to come out, whether for the first time ever to a close group of friends, or in a different way to your conservative office-mates who love those fag jokes. National Coming Out Day, like Christmas, falls annually on the same date,

but this Wednesday, October 11, organizers of Coming Out Day festivities say it is even more important than before to show your visibility.

"We cannot achieve equality from the closet," said Candace Gingrich, half-sister to former House Speaker and homophobe Newt. Gingrich is manager of the National Coming Out Project at

the Human Rights Campaign. "In election year 2000, ensuring the visibility of gay Americans and our allies, and exercising our full voting power is critical."

For more information on National Coming Out Day, including how to receive HRC's "Resource Guide to Coming Out," visit the National Coming Out Project at www.hrc.org/ncop/index.html. ▼

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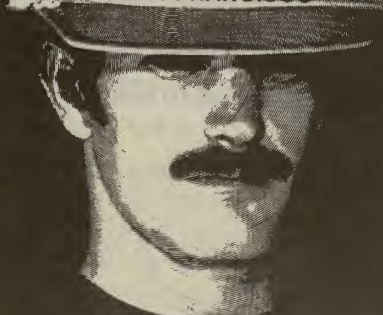
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Scrub typhus
controls HIV infection

by Bob Roehr

What if the way to control HIV infection is ... another disease? That was one of the startling implications of discoveries made by Dr. George Watt in Thailand. His findings were published in the August 5 issue of the medical journal the *Lancet* and he discussed them at a September 21 meeting at the National Institutes of Health.

People living and working with HIV disease have long known that coinfection with another disease is not a good thing. The added burden on the immune system often results in one or both of the diseases progressing faster. Even a cold or a vaccination can produce a short-term upward blip in HIV viral load.

Watt's team of U.S. military and Thai researchers at Chiangrai in northern Thailand looked at four tropical diseases of public health importance — malaria, dengue, leptospirosis, and scrub typhus — for possible interactions with HIV coinfection.

One patient stood out like a super-nova among the blood screening data gathered that first month. His HIV viral load was a staggering 2.5 million copies. He also showed the high fever and other symptoms of acute scrub typhus infection. Standard medication cleared up this infection in a few days. Thai government policy did not provide anti-HIV drugs at the time.

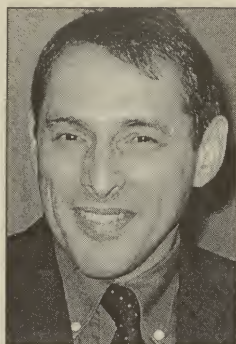
Two weeks later when they ran another blood test, the patient's HIV viral load had disappeared. It was undetectable with the assay used. "This was so surprising, so unexpected that it prompted us to begin a full-scale prospective search for other HIV-infected patients who came in with acute scrub typhus infection," said Watt.

Scrub typhus

Scrub typhus is an obscure disease to most people in the West, but it is a major health problem in Asia with an estimated 1 million new infections a year. Chiggers and mites pass the bacteria from rodents to people with their bite. Symptoms of the disease are a lot like the flu, with fever and respiratory problems, sometimes a scar at the site of the bite and maybe a rash. It is difficult to diagnose and 10-30 percent of those infected will die if not treated.

Earlier work found that the drugs used to treat scrub typhus could not prevent the disease, nor would they be effective if used too early. The body had to be given about a week to mount an immune response to the invader as part of the total effort to defeat it.

A 1986 study had shown that coinfection with HIV did not increase the severity of scrub typhus



Dr. George Watt

infection. It also found that the organism could be cultured out of the blood of about half the Thais who were HIV seronegative.

The curious fact was that these researchers could find the organism in only 14 percent of those who were HIV-positive. "This was the opposite of what one would have predicted," said Watt. "With salmonella or TB [tuberculosis], bacteremia is more common in HIV infected individuals."

"Looking back on this observation now, we think that just as scrub typhus inhibits HIV, HIV also inhibits *Orientia tsutsugamushi*," the specific bacteria that causes scrub typhus.

Perhaps what we are seeing in patients infected with HIV who acquire scrub typhus is that this very powerful immune response raised to the scrub typhus is somehow being turned against the HIV.

Watt's team went looking for more people with acute scrub typhus infection on top of their HIV. They screened more than 38,000 patients and found 31 who fit the bill. Most of those had a third or fourth ongoing infection as well, so they culled the number to 10 patients who looked like they had just scrub typhus and HIV.

This group had very advanced HIV disease, with a median of only 161 CD4 cells. Blood samples were taken when they first appeared at the hospital and again seven, 14, and 28 days later. The baseline used was the last measurement, day 28, when all signs pointed to the scrub typhus infection having been cured.

Four patients had significant decreases in their HIV viral load during acute scrub typhus infection, two became detectable by the assay used. "Not every scrub typhus infection is associated with a change in HIV viral load," said Watt. He ex-

plained that there is broad genetic variation in the bacteria.

"One of our tasks is to figure out what it is about certain strains of scrub typhus that produce this kind of results rather than no change." That means learning more about the basic science of the little studied microbe.

Back to the lab

Lab work revealed another very interesting fact about the scrub typhus patients, none of them had the syncytia-inducing (SI) phenotype, or variation of HIV, that is dominant in late stage disease and is responsible for massive cell death.

When researchers put the blood of a mouse infected with scrub typhus into tissue culture, it reduced the formation of the SI phenotype, and it reacted with HIV-infected human lymphocytes. Something in the blood was either directly inhibiting HIV or causing some other part of the immune system to inhibit HIV.

Watt outlined similarities between HIV and *Orientia tsutsugamushi* in their life cycles and the way they cause disease. He speculated that perhaps one difference might explain why the human immune system can mount an effective attack against scrub typhus but not against HIV.

Both infections spread by "budding" off of infected cells.

Tissue culture studies show that the process is rapid with HIV, but with scrub typhus they "are literally hanging out on the cell surface for several days," Watt explained. He suggested that the longer exposure helps the body generate a more potent immune response.

Watt offered this hypothesis: "Perhaps what we are seeing in patients infected with HIV who acquire scrub typhus is that this very powerful immune response raised to the scrub typhus is somehow being turned against the HIV. Perhaps [it is] because of antigenic similarities which have evolved during coinfections of wild monkey populations."

Work continues to try to identify the factor or factors resulting from scrub typhus infection that can inhibit HIV replication in humans. Such a factor may prove useful both as therapy for HIV and as a vaccine to prevent infection. ▼

State bills

◀ page 19

Davis did come through for the community in a major way by signing AB1785, by Assemblyman Antonio Villaraigosa (D-Los Angeles), and AB1931, by Assemblyman Jack Scott (D-Altadena). The two bills together will establish funds for collecting data on hate crimes in the public schools, re-

vising the curriculum to teach human relations education in schools, create a program that teaches diversity and tolerance, and provide training to school officials on how to recognize and handle hate crimes on campus.

The religious right, needless to say, was unhappy with the governor's signature on the hate crimes bills, warning that it was yet another way to teach homosexuality to kids. ▼

Correction

In the September 28 *Survive AIDS* column, "Reticulose: Some promise, too much hype," the name of the product should have been called Product-R and the full name of the company promoting it is Advanced Viral Research Corporation. We regret the errors.

OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Douglas Christopher Hicks

July 30, 1964 — September 29, 2000



Doug passed away at his home in Novato, California. At the time of his death he was surrounded by a lot of love. Providing this love and support were his sister, Linda Hicks, mother, Nina Minger,

best friend, Mark Wilder, father, William Hicks, and loving partner of six years, Gary Gross. It was a calm, peaceful, and very loving passing.

His devilish character and his in-your-face style will be missed by everyone who has ever met him. If you had the opportunity to meet him, you would not forget him. In an absurd way you would end up loving him.

Doug's appetite for all types of music was loved by his friends. Many people benefited from his vast library of tapes and CDs. Doug was the ultimate DJ, always wanting to control the music.

Like his music, Doug controlled his life and the end of it. Without stressing about it or over-planning, he orchestrated the entire thing. He had wanted to see his father before he passed, and he

waited for his dad to arrive from the East Coast before he began his journey. Doug is already very much missed by his circle of family and friends. A celebration of Doug's life will be held in his and his partner's home in Novato, California on Saturday, October 7, 2000. Please contact Mark Wilder at (415) 492-1068 for the details and instructions on how to get there.

It was Doug's request that any memorial contributions be made to Marin General Hospital, Shared Care Unit, in Greenbrae, California. It was their love and support that helped Doug through his lengthy hospital stays. Doug probably drove them crazy, but they all loved him very much.

We love you Boo Boo, rest in peace.

Marnix van Maele

February 17, 1961 — September 19, 2000

As a bright red sun rose in the early hours in Amsterdam, Marnix passed away surrounded by his mother, father and partner. Marnix liked to refer to San Francisco as his American home. He loved the freedom that he felt while here. He also had no problem socializing with the locals and if he didn't know you — then he would get to know you.

He had been fighting complications due to his HIV illness for years. Not only did he fight with this illness, but also with doctors, medications and U.S. Customs.

Marnix is survived by his parents, Herman and Gemma van Maele, brother Joris, sister in law Mariska, niece Jessie and his life partner and soulmate Patric Fitzpatrick of San Francisco. Also a host of aunts, uncles and cousins. He will be greatly missed by all.

Condolences for family and partner can be sent to: The van Maele Family, Stuvessande 504 4532 ML Terneuzen, The Netherlands.

Welterusten my love.

Gary Pensyl

b: Camp Gordon, GA, Sept. 12, 1954

Gary J. Pensyl died suddenly on Tuesday, September 19, while visiting his family in rockford, Michigan. He was hospitalized three times during the visit and died peacefully as the result of liver failure. Burial was September 23 in Rockford.



Gary received a BA in Art from San Francisco State University. He had a strong spiritual center and a sustaining passion for Native American basketry and tribal arts. Gary had an exacting aesthetic

and delighted in beauty wherever he found it. In Michigan, he is survived by his beloved mother, Evelyn Pensyl; sister, Linda Doran; brother, William Pensyl and wife Mary; niece, Deborah Wiest and husband Dean; and nephew, Chad Mosher and wife Heidi; and in O'Brien, Oregon, by his niece Nicole Doran and husband Jean Dhenin and great nieces, Myana, Brellyn, and Kleya Dhenin.

In the Bay Area, Gary is survived by the children he loved: Jonah, Theo, and Violet. And by close friends Amy and Steve, Anne and Richard, Arturo, Bobby, Danny, Douglas, Eddie, Fred, Hugh, Joe and Charlie, Kitty, Lisa, Maggie, Martin, Ms. Cherry, Nette and Dan, Sandy, Tommy, and Tony, among others.

A memorial service is planned for Saturday, October 7th; call (415) 885-6771 for details.

Frederick W. Vogel



Our beloved Fred left us from St. Mary's Hospice ward — with his lover of 12 years at his side, holding him — at 7 p.m. on September 23, 2000. Other friends arrived within minutes with a chaplain to hold a circle of loving prayer.

Fred served three tours of duty in Vietnam. He served our community helping countless lost souls in a personal way for over 25 years in the Tenderloin.

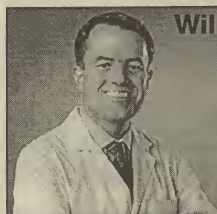
He and his selfless service will be sorely missed by the community, many friends, and his loving partner.

He was the last of his blood line, born on February 8, 1950.

His memorial will be held on the schooner Alma on October 12, leaving Pier 40 at 10:30 sharp. RSVP needed. Please call Bruce Riggs at (415) 346-8607. Wheelchair accessible. All invited.



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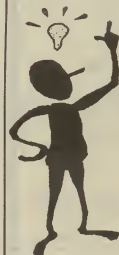
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2500 Market shelter wins final approval

by Terry Beswick

After two years of angst among Castro residents, merchants, and homeless advocates, city officials gave their final stamp of approval last week to a project that aims to give not only temporary shelter to homeless lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning young adults, but to set them on the path to becoming healthy, employed, and housed.

Over two hours of testimony for and against the project was heard Thursday, September 29 by the San Francisco Planning Commission before it voted 6-1 to approve a conditional use permit for a transitional housing facility at 2500 Market Street in San Francisco.

Initially proposed last year as an emergency drop-in shelter for queer youth by Supervisors Mark Leno and Leslie Katz, the project will house up to 15 young adults ages 18-24 for periods ranging from three to six months. Rather than simply offering a roof and a blanket, a full range of treatment and counseling services are to be provided to the clients, both on- and off-site, including substance abuse treatment. The annualized contract is expected to cost up to \$600,000, and DPH hopes to finish renovations and open the facility to homeless youth by mid-November.

Sponsored by the city's Department of Public Health at the request of Leno, the project is to be operated under contract with the

nonprofit Ark of Refuge, which operates several other shelters and transitional housing projects in the Bay Area. The annual contract may be renewed for an additional year, and had previously won approval from the Health Commission.

"This type of facility allows young people to get indoors and get treated," testified Marc Trotz, director of housing development at DPH, suggesting that without the kind of assistance to be offered by the new project, the target population to be helped by the facility faces a grim future. "The basic scenario is illness, incarceration, and sometimes death."

Alluding to the often vitriolic opposition from area residents, Trotz said that based on prior experience, he did not believe that neighbors of the facility would continue their opposition once it was under way.

"The more common scenario is you have people volunteering [to help the clients] rather than trying to close it down," Trotz asserted.

Tom Mogenson, a neighbor of a temporary youth shelter for queer youth run by the Ark of Refuge in Noe Valley last spring, offered proof of Trotz's projection, noting that he had been vocally opposed to the project before it opened in his neighborhood.

"It's really not that scary," said Mogenson. "These are really very bright, lovely people."

The hearing on the permit for the facility had been postponed for weeks after a small group of neighbors hired an attorney and met in

private with DPH and Planning Department officials in an effort to modify the contract with Ark of Refuge, which also participated in the meetings. Many of the conditions sought by the group were reportedly placed in the contract, though the Planning Commission rejected demands that three of the conditions be attached to the conditional use permit.

Based on a legal recommendation from the City Attorney's office, the Planning Department had raised objections to the conditions, including one which would have prevented the Ark of Refuge from applying for a renewal of their permit after two years, effectively making the shelter temporary. Other conditions would have prevented clients of the facility from parking vehicles on the street or playing in the adjoining Triangle Park — demands that the city attorney found potentially illegal.

Commissioner Hector Chinchila called the conditions "unconstitutional," and the only dissenting vote was cast by Commissioner Roslyn Baltimore.

A few neighbors of the facility are threatening to file an appeal of the Planning Commission decision with the Board of Supervisors, where a two-thirds vote would be required to overrule.

But DPH housing official Margaret Antonetty said that if an appeal is filed, she does not give it much chance of success.

"The only effect would be to slow us down," she said. ▼



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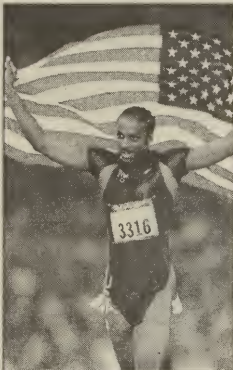
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Advance, Australia fair

by Jim Provenzano

While some athletes can nobly say what an honor it is to represent one's country, others storm off in silent shame for merely being the second or third best in the world.

To quietly sulk seems better than the ridiculous display put on by the winners of the men's 4 X 100, where Bernard Williams III and his three mates posed in U.S. flags like total jabronis. Other



Angelo Taylor of the U.S. celebrates after winning the gold medal in the 400-meter hurdles.

tracksters scolded them for the truly unbecoming behavior. Someone needs a little lesson in humility.

Some of the Bay Area's jocks were more noble in their victory, as in the 4 X 400 with multiple medalist, Michael Johnson, he of the golden shoes. Salinas' Alvin and Calvin Harrison not only looked sharp, but ran sharp, and the twins have come a long way from living out of a car in recent poverty-stricken days.

Oakland-raised Jason Kidd played a pivotal role in getting the U.S. men's basketball team to a narrow victory against France and Lithuania.

Stanford, of course, is a factory of Olympics athletes. Dozens of jocks from there have gone on to Olympic glory, thanks to a multimillion dollar endowment fund.

If you can afford the enormously expensive tuition, perhaps your kids could be as successful as sophomore Misty Hyman or alumnus Jim Thorpe.

But while cheering for locals and fellow Americans is almost obligatory, this dissenting post-racial couldn't help but cheer on a few of the many underdogs amid all the fireworks.

The American basketball team almost lost the pre-gold medal game to Lithuania. They won by a mere two points, and then only 10 points over France. That's democracy.

U.S. expatriate Donn Nelson Jr., who coached the Lithuanian team, said he felt horrible, and had a "sleepless night" for helping Lithuania almost defeat the U.S. I'd be darn proud.

One of the most amazing matches was the gold medal final volleyball match between Yugoslavia and Russia, where brothers Vladimir and Nikolai Grbic (pronounced Gerb-ich) took particular relish in defeating the jocks from the country that's invaded theirs oh so many times. Politics do play a part in some victories. It seemed obvious that the strikingly handsome Vladimir Grbic's brilliant save while jumping over the court barrier had much deep-

er inspiration than a mere game point.

Sunk

Gay diver David Pichler came in 9th in 10-meter platform, getting average 7.5s in the last few dives of a career accented by coming out. No doubt the pressures of being a gay role model got to him, as well as being outdone by the amazing Chinese victors Hu Jia and Tian Liang.

Pichler had raised a protest when his former coach, who caused trouble in his personal life a few years back, was added as part of the technical diving team. No doubt some behind-the-scenes arguments marred his success and confidence.

Drugs, not surprisingly, played a big part of the many controversies. IOC resentment, the mythical list of 12-15 uncertain athletes, the accusations made against jocks simply taking anti-asthma medicine, and some supposed jealousy of U.S. athletes, led to the accusations against Marion Jones's hubby, who did not compete.

Worldwide jurisdiction over this debacle seemed to evaporate, but the press feeding frenzy grew. According to U.S. track officials, the news leak of doping was aimed at deliberately smearing U.S. jocks. "We don't have the resources to make this a worldwide organization," said Craig Masback, head of USA Track and Field, of efforts to enforce even more drug testing. Oh well. Just take a medal from a 16-year-old gymnast with a cold to set an example.

Showtime

Now, let's play theatre critic. It is all a show, after all.

What's with co-anchor Hannah Storm and her empty living room set? The poor lady seemed so lonely sitting amid a sea of off-white sofas and Ikea lamps.

Closing Ceremonies were more festive. Ballroom dancing took the stage in a tribute to Aussie film with a number from *Strictly Ballroom* with 1,000 dancers, not including the improvising 10,000 or so jocks.

Despite the annoyance of useless interviews that interrupted the performances, U.S. swimmer B.J. Bedford offered valuable tips on hair-dying with her red, white and blue do.

INXS, Midnight Oil, Men at Work, and other pop groups offered musical contributions with a decidedly Aussie and Aboriginal edge.

Priscillarama: The drag element of Closing Ceremonies proved small by comparison to Kylie Minogue's Vegas Showgirl headress, the swirling mass of athletes, lip-synched anthems and other touching theatricalities like the Paul Hogan hat topped by —

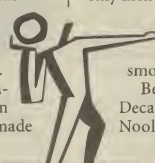
Paul Hogan.

Small, perhaps, since NBC, true to its obfuscating form, refused to show more than a fleeting image of the Priscilla bus, bypassing the much-debated gay elements of this very gay-friendly spectacle.

We can look forward to more blatant homophobia in Mormon Central, Salt Lake City, in 2002, and in Athens in 2004, where despite the Greek tradition, gay folks these days are less than appreciated.

Un-official awards

Best Technology: Pole Vault-cam, for capturing the first-ever women's inclusion in this event only inches from the bar.



Sports Complex

Best Commercial: The Truth's sardonic body bag anti-smoking ads.

Best All-Around Hunk: Decathlon gold medalist Erki Nool, the Estonian Decathlete voted Person Of

The Year in his own country, above his country's president. Must be that impish grin, or the way he fills

a track singlet.

Best All-Around Lunk: Greco Roman Wrestling's Rulon Gardner, whose rural habit of shoving cows came in handy in defeating Russian star Alexander Karelin.

Bravest Crossover Athlete: Nearly blind Marla Runyan, who couldn't see the fans who cheered her run in the women's 1500 meter. She's legally blind, and the only person to make the shift from Paralympics to Olympics.

Let's hope to see an athlete make the jump from Gay Games to Olympics some day. With Sydney having a rich gay and sports tradition, it might happen.

Commentator Idiocy Innuendo Highlight: After a mat-side commentator could only ask Terry Brands about his wife, his daughter, his brother, but nothing about his sport, NBC cut to the ever "witty" Bob Costas, who showed his complete ignorance of two of the planet's best wrestlers when remarking on twin brothers Tom and Terry Brands having wrestled since age 5: "Can you imagine those pillow fights in the bedroom?"

Pillow fights, indeed, Bob. Get some rest; like, four years' worth.

This whole enterprise proves that the Aussies (pronounced Ozzies) have an equally amazing, amusing event waiting for us in '02. Rack up the mileage now, folks. Hundreds of those volunteers on the sidelines are friends of Dorothy, and they're raring to welcome us for Gay Games VI.

And in local sports news, a couple of professional baseball teams had a good weekend. ▼

Got sports press info? No worries! E-mail
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OutRight

◀ page 11

nothing to advance them, huffing that Congress is the culprit.

Gay political groups, drunk on the passage of "historic" hate crimes legislation, will give Gore and the Democrats a do-nothing pass for the rest of his term. We will be told, once again, that it's necessary to elect more Democrats if we want anything done.

The upshot: under the most

likely configuration, we will get a hate crimes law, but no ENDA, no repeal of the military ban, and no domestic partners legislation.

Under either Scenario #1 or #2, we're in for four more years of Democratic excuse-making. ▼

Dale Carpenter, a law professor, is the winner of three Vice Versa awards for excellence in gay writing. He can be reached care of this publication or at OutRight@aol.com.

Taking the oath



Jane Philomeni/Chilard

Newly appointed Oakland City Councilmember Danny Wan was sworn in September 26 and becomes the first openly gay person to serve on the City Council. Wan was appointed by the council to fill the unexpired term of John Russo, who resigned to become city attorney. He beat out several other candidates for the job and looks forward to tackling many issues.

Gays for Gore

◀ page 1

sheets of paper to the window of Milk's old store (now the Skin Zone) that detailed Gore's positions and accomplishments on a number of issues. For example, Gore is fighting for hate crimes legislation and fighting for fairness in the workplace. Gore has supported qualified gay and lesbians for appointments in the current administration, and has fought for Americans living with HIV/AIDS. Next to the paper outlining Gore's platform, there was a sheet for Bush, asking what he has done for the community. "Nothing," the poster read.

Leno mentioned several common statistics about Texas, including the fact that the state is first in executions and near the bottom in the delivery of health services. The state also ranks first in air and water pollution.

"It's a dreadful record and Americans need to be reminded of it," Leno said.

Leal and Katz touched on the potential for the next president to appoint justices to the U.S. Supreme Court and what a long term detrimental effect Bush ap-

pointees could have on fundamental rights, such as a woman's right to choose.

A Bush presidency would have "catastrophic implications," Katz said. "It's frightening to think what kind of people Bush would pick."

Katz also recalled that several years ago Gore met with a group of gay and lesbian leaders in an effort to learn more about the community. After the discussion, he asked for a reading list of 10 books that would help him. "He said that he needed to get better educated about the issues," Katz said, adding that Gore is someone who will "understand our issues and fight on our behalf."

Leno and Leal urged LGBT voters to get on their e-mail lists and call friends in other states - especially battleground states in the midwest and Florida - to urge people to go to the polls November 7. Leal also noted that there are still a few days left for people to register to vote; the deadline is this Tuesday, October 10.

The Victory 2000 campaign office for the Democratic Party recently opened its San Francisco office on 10th Street between Harrison and Bryant, across the street from Costco. ▼

Dittenhafer

◀ page 17

toe the party line on the two propositions - a move that Dittenhafer said is within the mayor's rights.

"I know a lot of people in the neighborhood were somewhat concerned about the mayor's doing that," Dittenhafer commented. "I respect the fact that he made a decision."

As of September 29, the most recent filing deadline with the Department of Elections, Dittenhafer had raised \$31,000 in direct contributions to his campaign.

Dittenhafer's campaign said that in order to compete, their candidate can't stop the flow of so-called soft money, the unlimited, independent expenditures of

political clubs, businesses, and other organizations not subject to financial disclosure laws.

"Under the current laws, he can't control what people do," said Perri.

Yet Dittenhafer opposes Proposition O on November's ballot, which would change the law.

"Of course, everyone's concerned about it," he said. "I guess the thing of it is that it's another company's or individual's right to support a candidate," he said. "For me it's about freedom of speech."

"The reality is that if it's done, it's done, and if it is, it's great," he said.

He also objects to the partial public financing of campaigns included in the proposition.

"It starts to put the taxpayer into the realm of people running for office," he said. ▼

Carmichael

◀ page 2

Carmichael of delaying an officer in duties with serious injury.

"It's a serious felony," Steel said. "What's driving this case are his priors."

Steel said that her investigator is trying to track down witnesses to the incident at the San Jose airport.

Not surprisingly, Cherie Bourlard, the deputy district attorney in the career criminals division who's handling the case, told the B.A.R. that she sees Carmichael as a threat to society because of his past convictions,

which include felony evasion and reckless driving, along with transporting a controlled substance.

Additionally, Bourlard said that Carmichael intimidated a 17-year-old male passenger on the Dallas flight, though she acknowledged that Santa Clara County has no jurisdiction over that alleged incident. "It was this kid's first flight by himself," she said, adding that the dispute apparently started when Carmichael was stretched out over three seats in the airplane.

Bourlard said that one witness to the incident in Dallas told her it did not appear Carmichael was escorting his sick brother, though she said that the brother could

have been seated across, behind, or in front of Carmichael.

"American Airlines should have kicked him off," Bourlard said.

Bourlard added that once Carmichael arrived at San Jose, he was "adamant" about getting into the flight bag, despite apparent warnings from officers. She also said that the officer who sustained the broken wrist was a "mellow" officer.

"They struggled and they all fell to the ground," Bourlard said.

Both Steel and Bourlard said that because of the third strike nature of the case, it should be "no bail" as opposed to the \$1 million in bail Carmichael is currently being held on. ▼

Rosenkrantz

◀ page 2

was required to immediately inform all concerned parties, including the courts. Instead, the board kept the decision secret fearing it would be held in contempt of court if its reversal became known.

Senior Assistant Attorney General Paul Gifford who represents the board, said he wasn't informed of the panel's about-face until September 21, a full week after the board changed its mind.

"We did not intend to mislead the court," wrote Gifford. "We sincerely regret our mistake, which I consider to be personally embarrassing."

Upon learning of the gaffe, Rosenkrantz's lawyer, Rowan Klein, filed a 34-page brief with the Court of Appeals the next day urging Rosenkrantz's immediate release.

"This is the grossest thing," an infuriated Klein told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "They lied to the court."

"The Board of Prison Terms continues to make a mockery of

our system of justice," Klein wrote in the brief.

Last Friday, the board reversed itself again and approved parole but the panel wrote in its order that it approved parole reluctantly because it was under court order to do so.

On Tuesday, October 3, Klein filed a motion at a hearing in Los Angeles County Superior Court to get those remarks stricken from the parole order. Klein didn't want Davis to use the board's reluctance as justification for blocking parole. At the conclusion of the hearing, a judge ordered one remark be stricken from the parole order and scheduled an October 16 hearing to review the rest. Klein told the B.A.R. that he still hasn't seen the complete order but the Superior Court ruled that the parole board must let him see it.

Assistant Secretary for the Youth and Adult Correctional Agency, Steve Green, told the B.A.R. that the parole board submitted two boxes of documentation to the governor on the Rosenkrantz case. Green said the board would comply with the Superior Court's order to submit a

list of everything contained in the boxes by next Wednesday.

The parole board maintains Rosenkrantz remains a threat to society and deserves to spend more time behind bars but both the Superior Court and the Court of Appeals have emphatically ruled that Rosenkrantz has been unfairly denied parole and is no threat to society.

By all accounts, Rosenkrantz has been a model prisoner and evaluations prepared on his case by the Department of Corrections strongly endorse his parole.

Rosenkrantz was convicted of second-degree murder for shooting Redman, his former schoolmate, in 1985.

Redman, along with Rosenkrantz's younger brother, burst into a high school graduation party hosted by Rosenkrantz yelling "faggots." Redman broke Rosenkrantz's nose with a flashlight and outed him to his parents.

A week later, Rosenkrantz confronted Redman with an Uzi and demanded he take back his outing. The two argued and Rosenkrantz opened fire, shooting Redman 10 times. ▼

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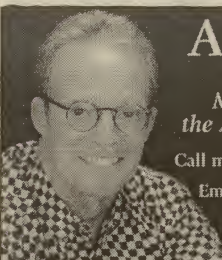
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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 243312
The following person(s) are doing business as Quantum Environment & Construction, Inc. 294 Palmetto Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94132. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Renato Badiola, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 7/21/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/06/00.
SEPT. 14, 21, 28, OCT. 5, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 243298
The following person(s) are doing business as San Francisco Bike Ballet, Bike Ballet, 655 Haight Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Carla Jean Laser. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 9/05/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/05/00.
SEPT. 14, 21, 28, OCT. 5, 2000

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 243248
The following person(s) are doing business as Debre Damo Hotel, 106 Fern Court, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Tsegal Berhe. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 9/01/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/01/00.
SEPT. 14, 21, 28, OCT. 5, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 243045
The following person(s) are doing business as Golden Gate Psychotherapy Service, 2166 Hayes Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Robert G. Hartford and Beth Y. Silverman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 9/13/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/13/00.
SEPT. 21, 28, OCT. 5, 12 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 243475
The following person(s) are doing business as Rainbow Motorcycle Club, 4308 19th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Wayne A. Moore. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 9/13/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/13/00.
SEPT. 21, 28, OCT. 5, 12, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 243436
The following person(s) are doing business as Jess Johnson Visual Presentation, 2272 15th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jess Johnson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 9/12/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/12/00.
SEPT. 21, 28, OCT. 5, 12, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 243578
The following person(s) are doing business as Pacific Coast Mat & Matting Co. 2060 Cesar Chavez, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by co partners signed Alfred Lieberman & Claudine M. Bailey. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 8/01/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/18/00.
SEPT. 28, OCT. 5, 12, 19, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 243595
The following person(s) are doing business as DB Electric, 431 Octavia Street #12m, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed David C. Bossler. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 9/19/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/19/00.
SEPT. 28, OCT. 5, 12, 19, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 243876
The following person(s) are doing business as Devin Studios, 468 Hickory Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kevin Scott Soderlund. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 05/15/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/02/00.
OCT. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2000

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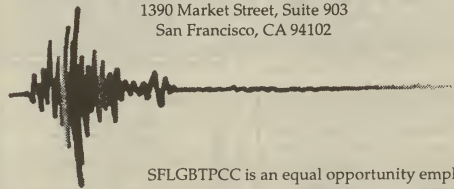
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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO.243876

The following Person(s) are doing business as Jevin Studio, 468 Hickory Street San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kevin-Scott Soderlund. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 05/15/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco CA on 01/02/2000.

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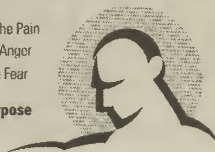
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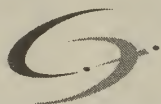


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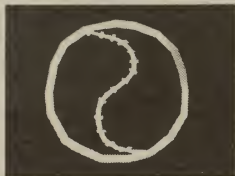
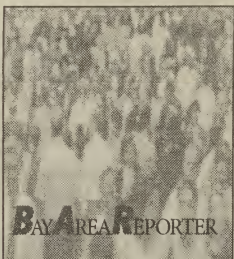
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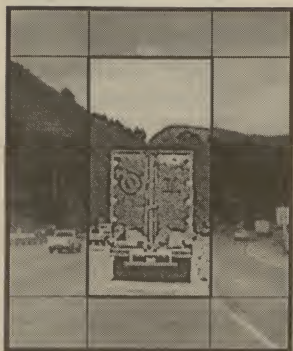
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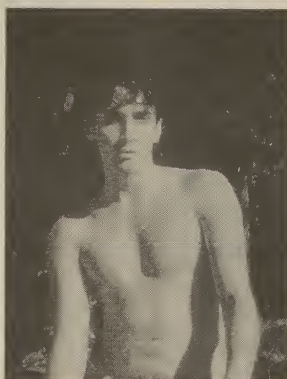
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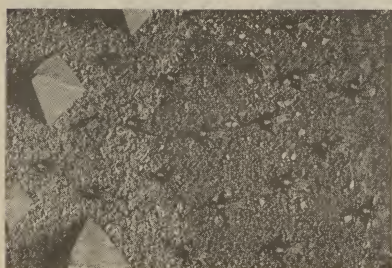
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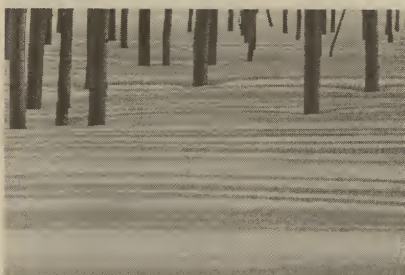
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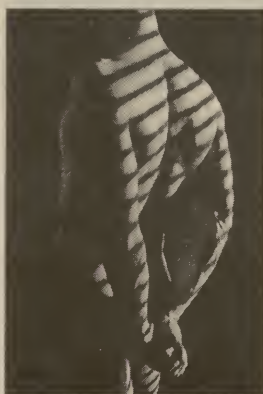
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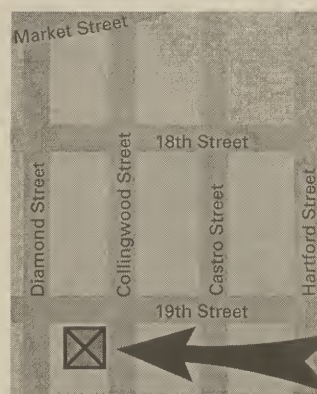
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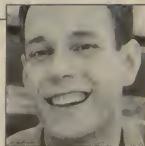
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Skeleton women and unknown friends
23rd Mill Valley Film Festival has plenty of
gay/lesbian content among the premieres.
page 33

Thrust onto the stage
Varla Jean Merman's
'Enough About Me.'
page 34



Being Jake Heggie
As SF Opera's 'Dead
Man Walking' premieres.
page 31



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 40 • 5 October 2000

Writer/director Greg Berlanti pitches a gay buddy film

Gotta have Hearts

by Jim Provenzano

While he was finishing the early versions of the script for *The Broken Hearts Club*, writer/director Greg Berlanti's car had been booted. He had no agent and no hope, but pure determination. "I wrote it for myself and a few friends," he said of those days.

That determination paid off. The script got him representation and the attention of Kevin Williamson, who brought Berlanti under his wing as a writer and current executive producer of *Dawson's Creek*, one of the gay wunderkind's many projects that have further pushed the gay glass ceiling for openly gay Hollywood artists.

Not wanting to jinx his job with *Dawson's Creek*, Berlanti originally turned down the directorial position for *Broken Hearts*, hoping Williamson would take the helm, until producer Mickey Liddell (*Go*) convinced Berlanti to direct.

As *Broken Hearts* opens in select theatres throughout the US, Berlanti talked with the BAR about directing, and his early writing inspirations. While *Broken Hearts* is based on aspects of his life and friendships, Berlanti says it's not autobiographical. That Dennis (Timothy Olyphant) is a photographer has nothing to do with Berlanti's cinematic career.

Dennis's photography is "symbolic of how I was writing about things and not getting in there, still observing, but afraid to put myself in the picture, and Dennis seemed to have that sort of quality. It's definitely autobiographical in other ways, like the romantic relationship at the core of the story, in terms of where those guys are at in their lives. Howie's story with Marshall was representative of my life at the time."

Although Italian-Irish, the 28-year-old Berlanti found inspiration in kosher ethnicity.

"A lot of my heroes were Jewish comedy writers in the '60s," he said. "Their family life was similar to mine. I don't know as much about being Italian-American as the tone of that family has permeated my stuff. There's sort of a loudness to it. You can't really take anything too seriously. That quality informs everything I do."

"My parents grew up in a time and a town where they were really trying to blend in. What I got out of that was from my grandmother, who would cook on Sundays, for the whole family. As much as my parents tried to be white suburbia during the week, there was a liveliness there."

Ham on Rye

Raised in Westchester County's Rye, New York, Berlanti is a graduate of Northwestern University's playwriting program. "I started as an actor; it's your closest way into the event. No one teaches you how to be a writer when you're young. I realized sophomore year there were a lot of other people who were more developed in that area. It's also a

whole way of life, and I'm a control freak. I wanted to be on the other side of things.

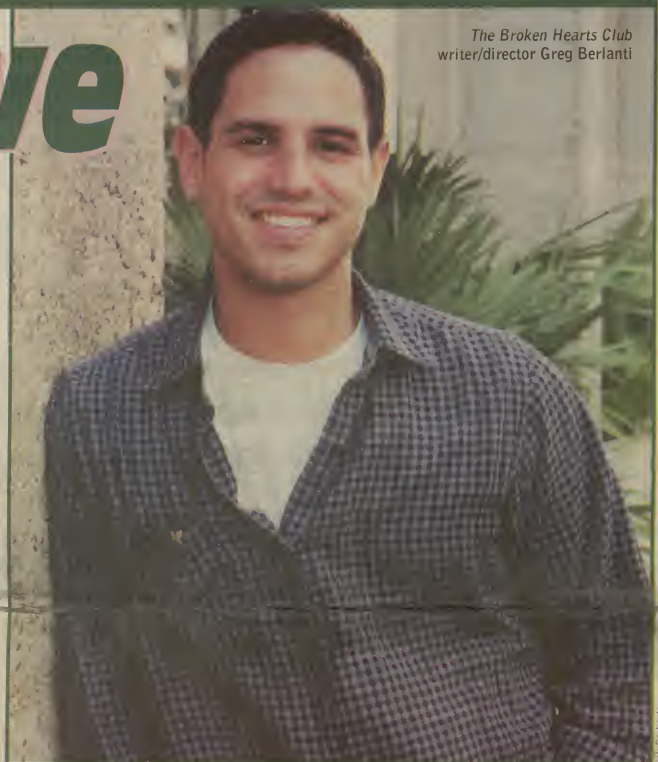
"The continuity is the storytellers, where the characters come and go. I realize that now, if you want to be a storyteller and make the product yours, in film, you have to be a director or you're just not going to be around when decisions are getting made."

One of those decisions was how to break out of the limitations of making a gay film.

"I was really just trying to write something as true as an experience as I'd had, and make it fresh, original and funny," he said. "We have the gag joke at the beginning of the movie to get out that nervous laughter from any audience about the fact that these guys are gay, just get it over with. It releases the tension in the audience and invites everyone in. It'll be interesting to see how it plays. I think there's a real opportunity for really true, human, flawed characters."

Berlanti said he was frustrated "as a

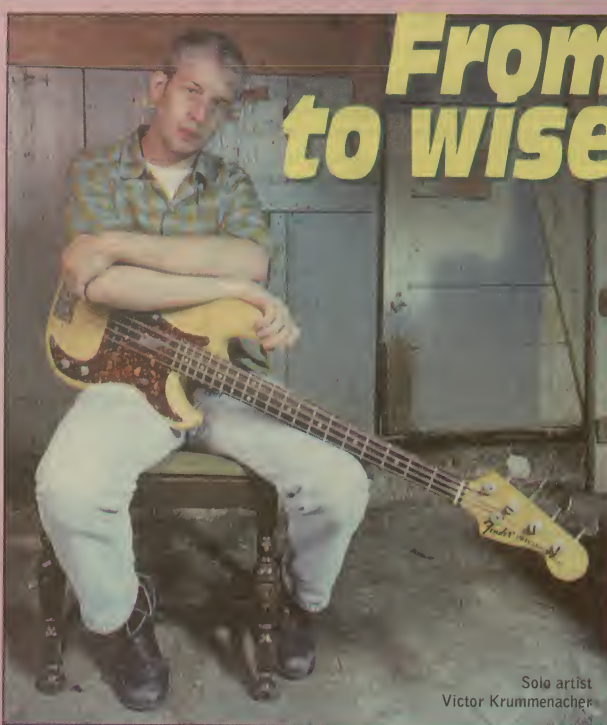
page 36 ►



The Broken Hearts Club
writer/director Greg Berlanti

Rick Gerhardt

Victor Krummenacher's Bittersweet journey



From punk to wise man

by Mark Mardon

He was like any other teenage punk rocker in Riverside, California during the early 1980s, bursting with hormonal angst, always ready to party, closeted but chasing boys as well as girls, and hellbent on producing noise. He went on to Santa Cruz to claim a name for himself—or rather, for the band that made him and his musical cohorts semi-famous, Camper Van Beethoven.

The Victor Krummenacher who just finished his second solo album, *Bittersweet* (Magnetic Records), seems a far cry from the wild hellion of Camper days. At his San Francisco home on the Pacific side of Twin Peaks, he seems domestic, if not actually domesticated. Looking fit and exuding confidence, he nonetheless is soft-spoken and manages to understate his musical abilities, which clearly are enormous.

The new album is a masterful display of singer/songwriter craftsmanship, flush with hurt/heartbreaking vocals and melodies, tinged with country, a little bit rockabilly, a little bit blues, paced leisurely but rolling

page 45 ►


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'In Concert' on a roll

by Richard Dodds

Following a successful pilot season, the New Conservatory Theatre Center has decided to stay in the musical-theater business, and even spread its wings a bit. There will be four musicals presented in the theater's 2000-2001 In Concert series, up from last season's three, and long-range plans to introduce new works in fuller productions are now conceivable.

New Conservatory, best known for its Pride season of gay-themed plays, put its toe into the musical waters last year after 42nd Street Moon moved its staged-concert versions of vintage musicals to the Eureka Theatre. New Conservatory is putting its emphasis on newer works, though there is vintage appeal in two of the upcoming shows, despite the relative newness of their titles.

Here is a look at the 2000-2001 In Concert series.

A New Brain (Nov. 1-Jan. 9) — Songwriter William Finn and librettist James Lapine, the co-creators of *Falsettos*, reteamed for this darkly comic 1998 musical inspired by Finn's experiences after he was misdiagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. George Quick, New Conservatory's new



Songwriter William Finn

director of audience development, will direct the Bay Area premiere.

A Grand Night for Singing (Dec. 6-Jan. 21) — Originally a cabaret show at Rainbows and Stars, this revue of Rodgers and Hammerstein's greatest hits opened in expanded fashion at New York's Roundabout Theatre in 1993. Dyan McBride is directing the show conceived and originally directed by Walter Bobbie.

Chess (April 4-29) — The 1986 West End production of this rock musical ran for three years. But the Broadway production of this tale of superpower conflict was a casualty of the end of the Cold War when it opened in 1988, running for just 68 performances. Bjorn Ulvaeus and Benny Anderson of ABBA fame provided the music, Tim Rice the lyrics, and Richard Nelson the book for the Broadway edition being presented at NCTC.

Forever Plaid (May 30-July 8) — Stuart Ross' off-Broadway hit focuses on a hopelessly square harmonizing quartet from the 1950s who are given a chance to perform a final concert after they are killed in a car crash on their way to their first big gig. Genuine standards from '50s make up the score. Earl Weaver is the director.

Of the four shows, only *A New Brain* has a specifically gay angle, inasmuch as the lead character is based on gay songwriter Finn himself. "We want to be careful here that this doesn't become an exclusive gay club," New Conservatory artistic director Ed Decker said. "We want to be filling a niche for a broader audience, and it was pretty clear last season that there were musical theater lovers who didn't necessarily identify as gay. And for gay audiences, those folks who are interested in musical theater know the ins and outs of musicals, whether they are gay-themed or not."

Now that the In Concert series looks to be around for a while, Decker said that the development of new work will become part of the equation. "The idea is to showcase emerging works in musical theater, and there are very few places in the Bay Area doing that." Looking ahead five years or so, Decker can envision a time when the theater will be able to offer these new works full productions. "First, we have to build this program, get the fiscal viability underneath it, and get a strong subscriber base," Decker said. "So far, it's off to a really good start."

For more information on the In Concert series, call 861-8972.

Vogel vehicles

Two lesser-known plays by Paula Vogel, the Pulitzer Prize-winning lesbian author of *How I Learned to Drive*, will receive their Bay Area premieres in the next two weeks. Both look at women dealing with violent spouses, women who may not be entirely passive victims.

"For me, being a feminist doesn't mean showing a positive image of women," Vogel has said. "We live in a misogynist world, and I want to see why. And I want to look and see why not just men are the enemy, but how I as a woman participate in the system."

The Paducah Mining Co. is the sponsor of Vogel's *Hot 'n' Throb-*

bing, opening Oct. 5 at Venue 9. Written after Vogel's success with *The Baltimore Waltz* but before *How I Learned to Drive*, *Hot 'n' Throbbing* looks at the relationship between pornography and domestic violence in a typical suburban family. For information call 289-2000.

Bare Bones Theatre is presenting Vogel's *Desdemona* at the Phoenix Theatre beginning Oct. 11. Set behind the scenes of Shakespeare's *Othello*, it focuses on Desdemona, Emilia, and Bianca as they reveal the personalities only hinted at in the original play. The one-act play is being presented on a bill with *Dutchman* by Imanu Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones). For more information call 359-0880.

AIR born

Gay pride and Y2K, the borders of bisexuality and bi-nationality, and the legacy of three generations of women are the themes behind the three plays receiving public performances in October and November as part of the Jon Sims Center's AIRspace program.

AIRspace, an ongoing artists-in-residence program at the gay and lesbian performing arts center, provides artists the chance to develop new works before presenting them as in-progress performances. All shows begin at 8:30 p.m. and will be followed by a discussion with artist and audience.

Oct. 6 and Nov. 3: Rebecca Schultz's *Passages* uses spoken word and visual metaphors to examine the experience of being a young woman over three generations. Schultz is currently pursuing a master's degree in interdisciplinary education at San Francisco State University.



AIRspace's Craig Acosta Rowe

Oct. 13 and Nov. 10: Craig Acosta Rowe's solo show *The Day I Kissed Mike Sanchez* uses performance poetry and traditional theater techniques to explore collapsing boundaries between gender, sexual, and ethnic labels. Rowe is a Ph.D. student in UC Berkeley's Department of Dramatic Arts.

Oct. 20 and Nov. 17: In *Original Blessing*, performer Federico Hewsom uses music, poetry, and song to look at last year's Y2K craze, our growing relationship with computers, and 30 years of gay pride. Hewsom will soon receive a master's degree in dance at UCLA.

For more information on AIRspace and other programs at the Jon Sims Center, call 554-0402.

page 37 ►

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INTERVIEW

How to succeed in opera

Musical conversation with 'Dead Man Walking's Jake Heggie

by Stephanie von Buchau

The biggest buzz about the San Francisco Opera's October 7 world premiere of Jake Heggie and Terrence McNally's *Dead Man Walking* isn't about the music, the script, or even about the international stars such as Susan Graham and Frederica von Stade prominent in the cast. It's about the fact that the production team is all gay.

At least that's the outside buzz. A dozen people have remarked to me on the subject. When I asked composer Heggie about it, he replied, "I never thought about it, but I guess you are right. Composer, librettist, conductor, designer, director — all gay. But what does it mean? In the opera world you're gay until proven straight. Just look at the composers." Confined to Americans of the last 50 years, the list includes Gian Carlo Menotti, Samuel Barber, Aaron Copland, Leonard Bernstein, Ned Rorem, Mark Adamo, Conrad Susa, John Corigliano and Heggie.



Conductor Patrick Summers

Conductor Patrick Summers, who in addition to leading the world premiere of *Dead Man*, is music director of Houston Grand Opera, which is negotiating with Heggie for a second opera, says: "This is not exactly news. I've worked on productions before where everybody was gay. You can hardly avoid it in opera. What's significant about *Dead Man* is not sexual orientation, which never comes up, but the fact that the process is so creatively rigorous. We don't know yet what the outcome will be, but there has been none of that fooling around and campy stuff that you sometimes get when preparing an opera." He pauses and adds dryly, "And not always from gay artists."

Heggie, who appears more ingenuous than he really is, has no explanation for why there should be so many gays in opera. "I never

think about it, but you know, I feel safe in this world. It's a place where you don't have to pretend; you can just be yourself."

Summers agrees. "It really is about the work. In the opera world you don't feel as if you have to defend or protect yourself as you might elsewhere."

I suggest that when young American men grow up gay and sensitive, they naturally gravitate to the arts, especially the flamboyantly expressive art of opera. If they grow up gay but not artistic, they may go into sports, finance or education. The point is that in those arenas there still exist stigmas and prejudices that cause gay men to keep their own counsel, watch what they say or how they dress and behave on the job. It's probably easier in San Francisco to be a gay man in a straight world, but it is still difficult.

For that reason, the complete acceptance of any sexual orientation in the arts community, and especially in opera, has to be liberating. "Absolutely," Heggie says. "Gayness is not an advantage in this world; it's all about the work. Besides, I get tired of being asked if I am a gay composer. What does that mean? What is 'gay music'? Music that sleeps with other gay music?"

We do hear stories about the "casting couch" in opera as well as in films and theater. Heggie claims never to have encountered any sexual politics in the opera world.

He laughs, "Look at it this way. Some of the people who have been most helpful in my career — Flicka [von Stade], Lotfi — are straight, so it obviously wasn't sexual politics that got me the job."

The story of how Heggie, who used to be a professional duo-pianist, became the hottest young composer in America virtually overnight has been told before, but since it is a uniquely San Francisco story, it bears repeating. Burned out on a concert career and suffering from a wrist injury, Heggie moved to the Bay Area in 1993. He was also, though he knew he was gay, involved in a May-December marriage with his former teacher, mentor and duo-piano partner, the late Johana Harris.

"I wanted to hide for a while, so I chose the San Francisco Opera press department." He worked there in obscurity, writing press releases and squiring opera singers to interviews and photo shoots. Because he's attractive and outwardly confident, besides being an excellent practical musician, Heggie struck up musical conversations with these singers. It may have been a coincidence, but it was a cosmic one that found him at SFO just as Lotfi Mansouri

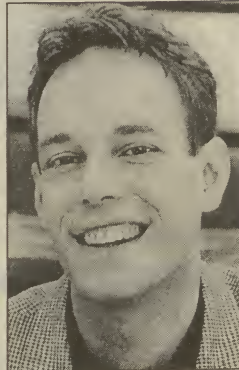
launched his first world premiere, Conrad Susa's *The Dangerous Liaisons*. In the cast were international superstars Renée Fleming, von Stade and Thomas Hampson.

They took a shine to the eager young publicist who wrote music in his spare time. When Heggie gave von Stade a set of three folk songs he'd arranged as an opening night gift, "She thought they were really good and suggested we do a concert together. Then she started to interest other singers such as Renée Fleming and Jenny Larmore in my music. Finally, she made a tape of my work that won the G. Schirmer art song competition."

The recording *Faces of Love* was released on RCA Red Seal in

1999; it's an all-Heggie disc starring von Stade, Larmore, Sylvia McNair, Carol Vaness and others. Mansouri, noticing his young publicist's rise in the music world, commissioned Heggie to write an ensemble piece for the opening gala of the refurbished War Memorial Opera House. Next came the commission for *Dead Man*.

Heggie is profuse in his gratitude to Mansouri. "Can you imagine what a leap of faith it took to hire a virtual unknown, who had never written an opera, to do a major work for San Francisco?" No, one can't imagine it, so there must be something going on here besides a "leap of faith" and Heg-



Composer Jake Heggie

page 47 ►



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'Baby' on board

SF Opera goes Americana

by Stephanie von Buchau

Now that the Olympics are over and the United States, which essentially pays for the event with its obscene television "rights," has won the usual umpteen gold medals, one was hoping for a lower volume of jingoism. Then the San Francisco Opera gave the War Memorial premiere of Douglas Moore's *The Ballad of Baby Doe*, often fatuously referred to as "the great American opera."

Well, it isn't. And why should it be? What is the "great German opera?" *Fidelio*? *Wozzeck*? *Die Zauberflöte*? Do you want to choose among *Carmen*, *Manon* or *Faust* for "the great French opera?" And we haven't enough space to discuss which of two dozen works, including three by Mozart, from *Coronation of Poppea* to *Turandot*, is "the great Italian opera." Yet opera is not indigenous to America, so we nervously assume it has to be like everything else in this country: competitive.

The sad truth about *Baby Doe* is that it is not competitive with the best American operas, no matter how you choose to define that term. Never mind classics such as *Show Boat* or *Porgy and Bess*; Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story* and Frank Loesser's *Most Happy Fella* are finer pieces of music theater (more tuneful, too) than *The Ballad of Baby Doe*.

Moore's talent was for sweetly syrupy melody embedded in a simulacrum of folksy Americana. For psychological depth and emotional power, Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah* runs rings around Moore's 1956 opus.

Yet *Baby Doe* has its moments as well as its longueurs. Five arias for the eponymous heroine that constitute, as one local wag put it, a song recital within an opera; two gut-wrenching scenes for Augusta Tabor; and *Baby Doe* and Horace's love duet are more music than you'll find in Cilea's *Adriana Lecouvreur*, but at least Cilea knew how to orchestrate. From my perspective, the worst thing about *Baby Doe* is that thin, tinny, brassy noise that comes out of the pit. Moore tries ineptly to underline important vocal points, yet succeeds mostly in getting in the way of his singers. Puccini doubling the vocal line this is not.

Difficult listening

A conductor who takes on this piece is swimming against the tide, and Stefan Lano had no luck at all in Act I. By Act II, either the orchestration calms down, or the conductor had been warned he was covering his singers, or maybe he finally figured out the War Memorial's difficult acoustics. It must be admitted that there was never a problem hearing James Morris (Horace Tabor), but in his case this was a mixed blessing. Morris is now snarling everything out of the side of his mouth, which makes him look like a stroke victim and is very hard on our ears.

He characterized Horace as an unimaginative lout, physically enthralled by Ruth Ann Swenson's *Baby Doe*. Swenson looks like a *fin de siècle* daguerreotype come to life. Short and plump, encased in the satins, ribbons, lace and bustles of the period, Swenson's *Baby Doe* is not very bright, but she's sweet, tender and loyal, exactly what a chauvinist pig like Tabor would prefer to the intelligent, high-maintenance Augusta (Judith Forst). John LaTouche's awkward libretto lets us think Augusta is just a sexually uptight prude for two hours before revealing (in a ludicrously amplified hallucination) that her husband was a drunken womanizer long before he met the fatal *Baby Doe*.

Swenson and Forst were up to the dramatic demands of their parts — don't knock Ruth Ann; it's difficult to play sweet without



Ruth Ann Swenson as Baby Doe

clinging — but both disappointed vocally. Augusta is the better role, the only fully-rounded human in the opera, and Forst gave a magnificently inflected interpretation. Vocally she hit all the notes, but the sound is not pleasant. Swenson always sounds gorgeous, even when the part appears to be too high for her. Too high, you say, for someone who numbers Zerbini-ta in her rep? Yet high notes have always been fearsome to Swenson, even though she has them in her throat. Moore's writing is not comfortable, and Swenson's *Baby Doe* only glowed in her rich, womanly middle register — a suitable metaphor for *Baby Doe*'s physical enchantment of Tabor.

The new production is one of those cheap-looking SFO numbers — remember the Gerard Howland season? — that moves cinematically and will transfer nicely to other stages without frightening the horses, but which was obviously conceived by people who do not have a clue about what opera singers suffer in a 3,000-plus seat house (or don't care). The cyclorama has lovely projections of Colorado's mountains, but the opera might as well be staged outdoors for all the acoustic support that pretty cyc gives the singers. Their voices fly straight up into the zillion cubic feet of air space that hovers ominously over the War Memorial stage, just waiting to gobble unsuspecting opera singers for lunch. ▼

The Ballad of Baby Doe continues in repertory through Oct. 14 at the War Memorial Opera House. Call 864-3330.

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FILM

Adding spice to the mix

Queer offerings at Mill Valley Film Festival 2000

by David Lamble

A compelling diet of queer features and shorts adds spice to this year's multi-venue menu at the 23rd annual Mill Valley Film Festival. Three G/L-oriented features are included among the 39 world premieres playing at 11 locations in Mill Valley and San Rafael.

Lessons learned

People who flee Maine tend to get as far away as they can, people who return seem to stay for life. Todd Verow is a lifer. You may think Verow fled to the woods to escape the stench of his 1995 adaptation of Dennis Cooper's serial killer novel *Frisk*, but you'd be wrong. Far from shamed by *Frisk*'s controversial standing among edgy queer films, Verow has set himself up with a little digital film kingdom to build on the lessons of *Frisk*. Making them cheap and fast (along with his partner/ screenwriter Jim Dwyer), Verow has picked up a following and a few indie awards with a trio of digital features (*Little Shots of Happiness*, *Shucking the Curve*, *The Trouble with Perpetual Déjà Vu*).

A Sudden Loss of Gravity is the Verow/Dwyer take on the implosion of three generations of misfits when the Punk Revolution hit the woods. The inmates of the Bangor High School have been fatefully imprinted by the twin tragedies of a fatal car wreck and



Aaron Falls and Devery Doleman in *A Sudden Loss of Gravity*

the bashing death of a defiant gay teen. (One of the cast dryly observes that they all may have died the night of the accident and are just waiting for it to catch up with them.)

Verow and Dwyer make an asset out of the aesthetic limitations of video, and in the process create new schools of writing and acting. *Gravity* plays like a mix between a video *River's Edge* and one of those tabloid cop shows shot on acid: the piece is emotionally driven rather than plot-challenged. Aaron Falls heads up a homegrown cast of newbies. Falls' lanky

somnambulism is easy on the eyes, while his revolt against a punker mom reverses the typical John Waters approach in a refreshing and offbeat way. (10/13, 9:30 p.m., Rafael)

Sealed fate

It's rare to see a successful film on a spiritual theme, and Vivi Let-sou's *Skeleton Woman* is just that. The film is, in part, a modern fairy-tale: a female erotic dancer, Olya (Daphne Rubin-Vega), seduces Anna (Serene Scott Thomas), a former painter trapped in a stressful job and bar-



Daphne Rubin-Vega as Olya in *Skeleton Woman*

ren marriage. Olya tells Anna the story of the Seal Woman, who trades her skin for the love of a fisherman, forgetting that the price for abandoning one's true nature is death. *Skeleton Woman* is also a story of Olya and Anna's spiritual resurrection as they struggle to cope with a dark secret.

Besides poetic shots of Bay Area beaches, *Skeleton Woman* employs another local resource to good advantage — the actor J.E. Freeman, who adds Luigi, ringmaster of the psychedelic sex circus in which Olya works, to his impressive gallery of indie film

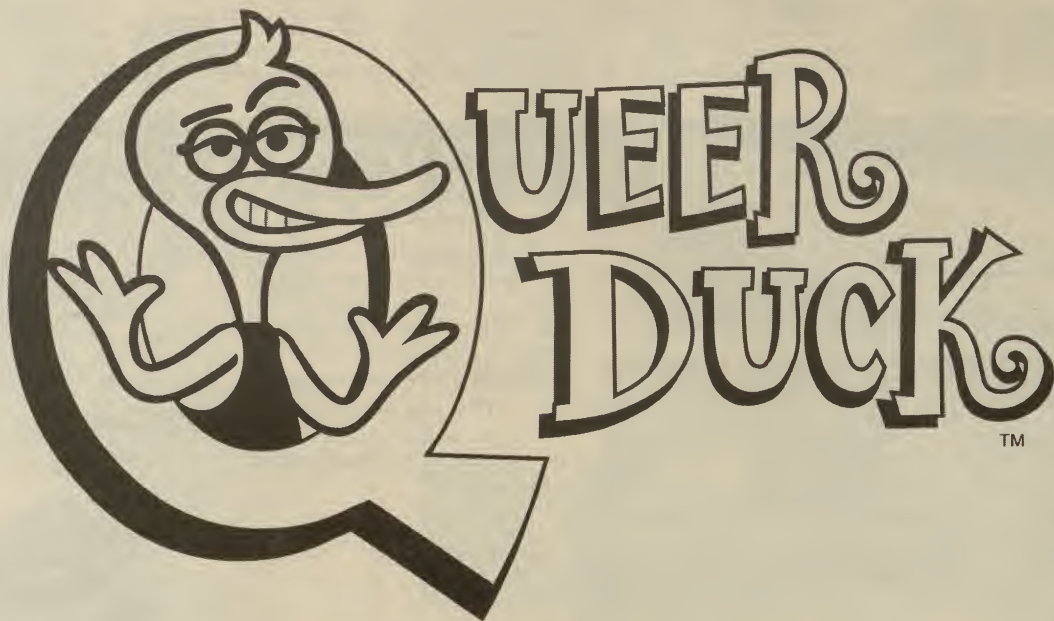
rogues. (10/8, 5 p.m., Sequoia; 10/15, 7 p.m., Rafael)

The shorts program *Show Me Your ID* offers oddly amusing solutions to some age-old problems. The question of how do you like your eggs gets a hilarious answer in Daniel Gamburg's spoof of today's flexible fertility options, *The Egg That Wouldn't Hatch*. Beth and Mara find their once-settled relationship turned upside-down when Mara announces that her biological clock is not only running, but about to get a service call from an unknown man, Daniel. "It would be nice to have a baby, but I don't know if I want some Russian Jew having sex with you on our bed!" So much for exposition-loaded dialogue — pretty soon Beth, Mara and Daniel find that this new-fashioned baby game has its own funny rules. "They told me if I go in and it's physical, I get paid a little extra."

An aspiring director finds he may not have what it takes in the romance department in Benjamin Morgan's parody of love and filmmaking, *Meet Joe Gay*. What starts off as a gay version of *Cinderella* turns into a multi-generational exploration of relationship-building. Morgan's film offers the view that, at least among gay men, the teens and seniors seem to have the best handle on how to make love last. (*Show Me Your ID* program: 10/14, 1 p.m., Oddfellows Hall/Mill Valley)

page 37 ►

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FILM

A lover and a fighter

'Girlfight' puts up both dukes

by David Lamble

Michelle Rodriguez makes a face a couple of times during *Girlfight* that reminded me of an old Disney cartoon. Her nostrils flare, her eyes blaze like lumps of burning coal, she's about to whack somebody in the head. Now, *Girlfight*, Karyn Kusama's spirited tale of a Red Hook, Brooklyn high school girl's transformation into a featherweight boxer, is no cartoon, but Rodriguez's Diana Guzman does at times resemble a Saturday morning action hero, ready to leap across school lockers to beat the stuffing out of a snooty bitch princess.

As Diana shifts her once-unfocused rage into the ring, she develops the ability to kick some serious butt, and much of it is male butt (ironically, in a film that is in no way an orgy of male-bashing). In the recently reviewed documentary *Shadow Boxers*, filmmaker Katya Bankowsky declined to explore female boxer Lucia Rijker's relationship with her ex-lover, male boxer Billy Kean. *Girlfight*'s Guzman demands respect from her man in and out of the ring, and a cinema fight takes place between lovers.

Girlfight begins with one as Diana comes to the defense of her only friend, a portly teen Marisol (Elisa Bocanegra), who loses her boyfriend to the school's Slimfast

queen. On the brink of expulsion, Diana accidentally discovers her world when running an errand for her abusive dad, Sandro (Paul Calderon), takes her to the Brooklyn Athletic Club — a kind of a fancy name for a dimly-lit dump that is little more than a ring, a weight bag and a bucket of spit. Diana immediately jumps into a fight, defending her skinny brother Tiny (Ray Santiago) from a sucker-punching bully named Ray (Victor Sierra). Proving that she can mix it up with the guys earns her respect and a manager, Hector (Jaime Tirelli). Hector's philosophy is summed up in the advice he gives Diana when she's faced with fighting her boyfriend: "I don't care who this guy is to you, don't be afraid to hurt him!"

Diana was born a fighter, but she has to learn to become a boxer. A boxer is a person who expresses herself with her fists, fists that are directed by a very disciplined mind, and controlled by a very big heart. Those fists belong in somebody else's face, precisely where *Girlfight*'s cinematographer Patrick Cady keeps his very mobile camera — in the middle of Diana's fight to become an adult woman who gets to decide whom she loves and whom she fights, and whether at times her lover is her opponent and her opponent her lover.

Knock out

Director Kusama keeps *Girlfight* from falling into the clichés

of boxing films, unearned sentiment and cheap melodrama, with bits of subversive humor. One of the biggest clichés is, of course, the climactic fight, where the hero boxer defeats his opponent in the ring (*Streets of Gold*), discovers his worth as a person even in defeat (*Rocky*), or becomes his own opponent (*Raging Bull*). Making the boxer a woman gives fresh life to an old story, especially when she's mostly fighting men. In real life, women's boxing is following the pattern of women's basketball, golf and tennis, with women playing women. *Girlfight* knocks this cozy world of women's sports on its butt, saying that maybe some girls can play with (and beat up) the boys.

Diana's initiation into the male world of boxing comes when she stands up for her sensitive brother Tiny. Tiny at first resents the shit out of Diana, but by film's end he's in her corner, even handing over the money their loutish father gives him for boxing lessons. "I'm a geek," Tiny explains. "I'll find something constructive to do with my time." Ray Santiago plays Tiny in a way that makes sensitivity sexy. Ultimately, we don't know if the "g" word in his case is geek or gay, but it plays beautifully either way.

One of the strengths of *Girlfight* is that it's out of the closet about the fact that boxing attracts and produces some pretty decent human beings, that it's not a

Santiago Douglas and Michelle Rodriguez in Karyn Kusama's *Girlfight*

choice between the brutality of a Mike Tyson or the con of a Don King. Diana begins the film living under the tyranny of a rotten dad, and boxing gives her a better one in the form of her trainer, Hector. For Diana, boxing becomes the source of the strength to defeat Dad in the ring of the family kitchen.

It is a lovely irony that the fight to end the film comes between the characters with the sweetest relationship. Diana and Adrian (played by hot young stud Santiago Douglas, who reportedly lost 20 pounds to be a featherweight) are so totally turned on to each other that sex is not only inevitable but almost beside the point. When they first meet, Diana and Adrian

spend all their time not looking at each other. In their first night sharing a bed, they're more like brothers who've accidentally discovered the joys of frottage. Besides a tender kiss, their most intimate sharing comes when Diana slips Adrian her cheeseburger. This is a girl and a boy who have almost a gay relationship. So it doesn't seem wrong or anti-climactic when fate dictates that they fight. The suspense comes from whether love can endure combat — it brings homoeroticism into a heterosexual relationship. These are lovers who will fight an opponent they know almost as well as themselves. Or, as Diana reminds Adrian, "You have a right hook that can lay me out." ▼

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Friendship train

'The Broken Hearts Club'

by Robert Julian

It is usually the French who produce those charming little films in which nothing really happens. Transforming the mundane into the magnificent is a feat rarely accomplished by American filmmakers. But writer/director Greg Berlanti, with his first film, enjoys remarkable success with the daily lives of twentysomething Los Angeleno queers. Billed as "a romantic comedy," *The Broken Hearts Club* is a sweet film about friendship — funny, smart and touching, without being maudlin or self-conscious.

The men of Berlanti's movie are the employees and patrons of a West Hollywood gay bar/restaurant run by Jack (John Mahoney, the father on *Frasier*). Patrick (Ben Weber) is plain and ordinary; Dennis (Timothy Olyphant) struggles to find himself beyond the group; Cole (Dean Cain) is a buff lothario trying to carve out a career as actor; and Kevin (Andrew Keegan) is a young man just coming out. Together with Mary McCormack (*Murder One*), Nia Long (*The Best Man*), and Billy

Porter, this wonderful ensemble cast provides a winning impersonation of individuals approaching their thirties and trying to "get it right."

Many films in the last few years have tried to capture the urban gay milieu, and most have fallen flat. But *Broken Hearts* is blessed with Berlanti's exceptionally intelligent script. The film casts a wide net, but does not go deep, yet Berlanti's dialogue and situations are believable throughout. There is one drug overdose, several scenes in gay bars, two gym scenes, and one lesbian artificial insemination. But none of these situations descend into stereotype, and that is due to the quality of the writing and acting. Berlanti respects the characters he creates and never robs them of their dignity, even when they're being idiots. *Broken Hearts Club* does not have the razor-sharp edge of *Queer As Folk* or its brutish spirit; these are nice guys. In Berlanti's hands, the life of gay boys in Los Angeles has never seemed more "normal" or reasonable.

Berlanti comes to movies from his role as producer of television's *Dawson's Creek*. Most of the actors he assembles have passed through several TV series or independent feature films, so their faces will be familiar even though their names are not yet famous. In this sense, *Broken Hearts* recalls the Universal Studios films of the '60s that threw contract players from television up against the wall of motion pictures just to see who might stick. Some *Broken Hearts* actors



Greg Berlanti directs the cast of *The Broken Hearts Club*.

will probably have big careers, but it's difficult to single out an individual for special recognition because the entire cast works at a consistently high level. But Dean Cain, TV's Superman, is thoroughly charming as a gay sexaholic, although his once-perfect face and body seem to be heading in a different direction.

The Broken Hearts Club ends with a reminder that will be particularly resonant for most gay viewers. In a quiet but unmistakable way, it recalls the value of enduring friendships, a commodity few will appreciate more than the gay men who have survived the last two decades. ▼

The Broken Hearts Club opens Friday in the Bay Area.

Greg Berlanti

◀ Arts cover

young gay man going to the movies and not being able to see yourself up there. You want to see a struggle you can identify with. I used to think, 'No one's making a good case for being gay. I'm either going to die before I'm 35 or have to get sex on a street corner.' I think the silent majority of gay men are not like that, or represented on film."

That doesn't mean he'll only write gay material in the future.

"I've resisted writing the gay episodes of *Dawson's Creek*," he noted of his day job. "I'm sort of a reluctant leader in that category. But then I'd do it, and it would further my career, and I'd feel good about something that I was passionate about. I look at someone like Spike Lee, and he's not doing a lot of films about white people. He's doing films about his culture that he understands, and he's done pretty well by that."

"There's something great about writing gay characters now that's very fresh, like the kids on *Dawson's Creek*. There's sort of a hyper-emotion, a real struggle in what they've been through. They're great characters. We can write people who are smarter and funnier."

Playing the closet

An amusing aspect of *The Broken Hearts Club* is the running gag about a closeted actor not being gay, since "he's married." Compounding the joke through deft casting, both Michael Bergin and Dean Cain play closeted actors. Both have been rumored to be gay or bisexual.

"No one really made any comments about it. There was one actor who turned down playing the Kip [Bergin] role. He was friends with someone he thought it was based on."

Berlanti also confirmed that

Cain, who's played gay before, is "very much a heterosexual."

But why the fascination with some actors' sexuality? "I think it comes out of our wish fulfillment, wanting people to be gay whether they are or not," he said. "We all hope that people are as lovable as we see them onscreen."

Berlanti said he had few problems casting so many gay roles. "Actors want to do the parts if they're good; agents want them to take the parts if they're good. That's changed. I think audiences want to see the material. Writers want to write it."

The biggest barriers are "the suits" of Hollywood. "Marketers are still afraid of how to market a gay movie like it's any other movie," he said. "For this film I've found that there's no precedent. We've had to create ourselves. Until people can put a film like ours in more than 100 theatres, we're not gonna make more than three or four million dollars. *Titanic* wouldn't make what it did in only 100 theatres."

"It's a Catch-22. That's the last group that's afraid of the subject matter, the people who sell the product. That will crack and fall eventually. It certainly has in television, with *Will & Grace*."

To further the cause, Berlanti has taken a direct role in promoting his film.

"You have to rattle cages. I haven't been frustrated at all by this process until recently. It's just the only part of the process where people still see gay film and small film as synonymous. Word of mouth really helps. Whether it's about five Englishmen stripping or seven gay men in West Hollywood, it can happen."

Part of that word of mouth is from members of the GLBT sports community.

"One guy who plays on a gay softball league said it was very much like his group of friends, but it's more specific to my softball experience, the nerd group growing up, always getting picked last, so we had to have the most fun. It was six-inning games, and we had the one really bad baseball team. We would mostly sit around talking to my friend's mother."

In transforming his youthful experiences to an adult rec team, Berlanti also hoped to focus on maturity within a community, and how communities develop.

"Jack [John Mahoney] also reminds them — the guys in their 20s — to widen the scope of their lives. It takes a character like that to get them out of their rut, to do things that people don't expect from them, and challenge themselves in other ways." ▼

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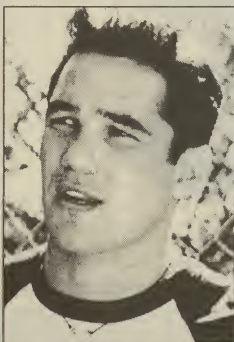
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Dean Cain as Cole

FILM

Dark times

Bjork's a doormat in 'Dancer in the Dark'

by Tavo Amador

Lars Von Trier's *Dancer in the Dark*, which won the prestigious Palme D'Or at this year's Cannes Film Festival, is set in a European version of rural Washington State in 1964. In the film, which opens Friday at the Bridge, Selma (Icelandic pop diva Bjork) is a Czechoslovakian immigrant and single mother of a 12-year-old son, Gene (Vladica Kostic). She rents a trailer house from Bill (David Morse) and his wife Linda (Care Seymour), and works in a factory. Her best friend at work is Kathy (Catherine Deneuve). Selma, who wears thick glasses, suffers from a genetic condition that will soon leave her blind. The same condition will strike Gene unless he has surgery

performed by his 13th birthday. Selma has taken extra work and sacrificed everything to save the money for his operation. She also foregoes romance with the kindly Jeff (Peter Stormare).

Selma has told no one about her failing vision, including Gene. She fears that if he worries, it will accelerate its onset and the surgery will fail. When asked what she does with her extra money, she says she sends it back to her father, Oldrich Novy (Joel Grey).

Selma and Kathy go to see old Busby Berkeley movies at a local theatre. Kathy has to tell Selma what's going on during the musical numbers, because she can't see in the dark. It's becoming apparent to Kathy that Selma's eyesight is failing, and she fears she will hurt herself working with the complex machinery at the plant.

Selma minimizes the problem.

Selma has an active fantasy life, often imagining herself as the star of musical production numbers. Reality soon clashes with fantasy, however, and Selma finds herself betrayed and facing execution for murder.

Melodrama set to music can be powerful indeed, if the music is by Verdi or Bellini, or Gershwin or Bernstein. Alas, the music in this film, written by Bjork (lyrics by Von Trier and Sjon Sigurdsson), is insipid and generally feels like an intrusion, rather than a way of illuminating the conflict or the feelings of the heroine. When Bjork's not singing her own ghastly material, not helped by the inane lyrics, she's warbling bits from *The Sound of Music*. She deals with the terror of her upcoming hanging by performing "My Favorite Things" in a small, not particularly attractive voice.

Waif of the year

If doormat victims are high on your list of admirable women, then Bjork's Selma, who could inherit the long-vacant waif crown from Greta Garbo, will please you enormously. She is an unaffected actress, likable, and at times very touching in her distress. Her love for Gene is beautifully rendered. But she is such an eager martyr, so patient in the face of unforgivable treachery, so placid in her suffering, so damned noble, that she ultimately forfeits sympathy.



Bjork and Catherine Deneuve in *Dancer in the Dark*

thy.

Deneuve, on the other hand, glows with common sense and genuine compassion. While it's impossible to accept her toiling in a machine shop, she makes the audience believe in her love for Selma, illogical though it is. She lights up the screen and is quite moving in her desperate efforts to save her friend from her fate.

Except when forced to sing, the rest of the cast performs admirably, especially Stormare as the besotted Jeff and Morse as the desperate Bill. Grey makes an all-too-brief appearance towards the end, but for a few seconds we get a glimpse of someone who knows how to perform a musical number.

The film is short on logic, which wouldn't be a problem if the music swept the viewer away. But since it doesn't, questions keep cropping up. The choreography and dance direction, by Vincent Paterson, is no threat to the memory of the Fred Astaire movies Selma remembers with such fondness. At nearly two and a half hours, Von Trier's film gives us too much time to think about how we are being manipulated by him.

I didn't leave the screening humming. ▽

Dancer in the Dark opens Friday at the Bridge Theatre.

Mill Valley

◀ page 33

No one has ever accused German films of being underwrought, and Anne Hoegh's *Unknown Friend* doesn't let the nation down. Ellen (Karoline Eichhorn) seems a bit unhinged as, fresh out of jail, she pursues her one-time best friend, Katrin (Inga Busch), now a DJ for lovesick club puppies. Katrin tells Ellen it's over — why doesn't Ellen buzz off? What does she know about a faithful night of violence five years ago that ends one life and forever alters two others? Director Hoegh adopts the same peeling-back-the-onion style of tantalizing flashbacks laced with large doses of paranoia that has proved so successful for psychological thrillers like *Urbana*. (10/7, 9:30 p.m.; 10/8, 2:45 p.m., Rafael)

Dark shadows

Novice filmmaker Marc Singer hits a home run his first time up with *Dark Days*, one of the few films to tell the story of homelessness in America without pity or bathos. Five years ago Singer got a unique opportunity as he fell upon a community of underground men, guys literally inhabiting the dark spaces alongside the Amtrak train tunnels running the length of Manhattan. Singer spent years getting to know his subjects, who in some cases had been living in the tunnels for as long as 25 years. To see these men the way they needed to be seen, Singer got them to crew as well as star in his film. Having already fallen down a rabbit's hole, the men are remarkably honest, and tell their stories with humor and irony. His neatly trimmed beard speckled with gray, Henry shares his recipe for cornbread (sweet milk causes the grains to bind properly); another guy explains why he prefers

to dive through Kosher dumpsters (every leftover is carefully separated, so a tasty piece of meat is uncontaminated by coffee beans.)

The men of *Dark Days* are quick to spot sentimental BS about drugs and bad judgment, the slippery slope to their underground purgatory. Singer's cameras humanize their subjects: a skinny guy is actually a little sexy taking a very cold shower in his boxer shorts; a self-admitted hustler is allowed to be homophobic about how his fastest-selling tapes are always the "faggoty" ones (homeless guys can be bigots, too.) In some ways, *Dark Days* is the real *Survivor* (with its share of rats) without the corporate gamesmanship. An upbeat ending, in which everybody but the filmmaker gets a place to call home, may help *Dark Days* reach beyond the Food Not Bombs crowd. (10/13, 9:30 p.m., Sequoia; 10/14, 4:30 p.m., Rafael)

A rare widescreen revival not to be missed is the 1954 John Sturges action thriller *Bad Day at Black Rock*. One of the shortest films ever shot in Cinemascope, at 82 minutes it makes even the tautly paced *High Noon* seem long-winded. Spencer Tracy is the one-armed man who climbs off the Southern Pacific Streamliner and descends into a town with dusty streets and angry, suspicious eyes. Screenwriter Millard Kaufman employs terse Hemingwayesque dialogue to punctuate a script that balances melodrama with understated social themes — racism, mob justice — themes that would dominate widescreens in the '60s. Kaufman, who got an Oscar nomination for *Black Rock*, will be on hand to discuss the film and autograph his book, *Plots and Characters: A Screenwriter on Screenwriting*. The program takes place Saturday. (10/14, 2 p.m., Rafael) ▽

Backstage

◀ page 30

Making tracks

The notion of concentration camps for AIDS patients was actually discussed in the disease's early days, and it is part of the future imagined in Steph De Ferie's play *Cannibals Alone*, opening Oct. 6 at the Exit Theatre.

In this future, AIDS has become pandemic, and a conservative survivalist mentality has

gripped the country. De Ferie's play looks at two women who run an underground railroad that transports those testing positive for HIV to safety in Canada — a safety that may be illusory.

The Chameleon Theatre Company is presenting the West Coast premiere of De Ferie's new play. For more information call 641-0197. ▽

Richard Dodds can be reached at BARstage@aol.com.

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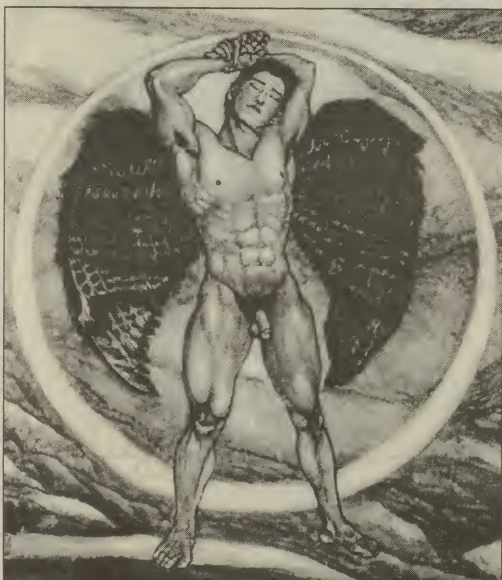
OUT & ABOUT



Fifty Foot Drag Queen, acrylic on canvas, 1996, by Frank Pietronigro, featured at the GLAA exhibition at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy this Saturday and Sunday, a part of ArtSpan's SF Open Studios 2000.



Landscape and Torso, by Peter Howells, 2000, part of Open Studios at Belcher Street Studios in Duboce Triangle. See Saturday.



The Black Winged Angel #3, ink & color on paper, by Freddie Niem, 2000, part of Open Studios at Studio Shanghai West. See Saturday.

Fri 6

ODC Theater

Erica Essner Performance Co-Op (ODC Artist-in-Residence) Presents "Sudden Pictures," including two premiere works: "Kandinsky 2000" and "Snapshot" as well as the repertoire piece "Ravish" (1999). "Kandinsky 2000" features a sultry techno score composed by Erik Ian Walker (Joe Goode Performance Group; Margaret Jenkins Dance Company). The piece explores the relationship of dance to abstract art. "Snapshot" is a theatrical narrative based on photographs, a wild ride of visceral images, intimate gestures, ominous smiles and distorted shapes. Car crashes, weddings, divine interventions, and epiphanies are all a part of the new work. Visuals by Doug Baird. \$15. Thur-Sat, Sept 28, 29, 30; Thur-Sat, Oct 5, 6, 7. 8pm. 3153 17th St. 863-9834; www.ticketweb.com; www.odcdance.org/theater

The Mexican Museum

Opening reception: "Chicanos en Mictlán: Día de los Muertos in California," the culmination of the museum's 25th Anniversary year and the crowning exhibit at Fort Mason Center before the museum moves to the Yerba Buena Neighborhood. The exhibition surveys the transformation the celebration has undergone in California, focusing on the impact of two small cultural centers, Self Help Graphics in Los Angeles and Galeria de la Raza in San Francisco. Live music and sumptuous food by Maya restaurant. Free. 6-9pm. Building D, Fort Mason Center. 202-9700.

Museum of Craft & Folk Art

Opening reception: "Death and Memory: Mexico's Día de los Muertos," an exhibition of objects used to celebrate Mexico's Day of the Dead, in conjunction with The Mexican Museum's concurrent exhibit, "Chicanos en Mictlán." Includes an altar created by Yolanda Garfias Wood. Free. 5-9pm. Building A, Fort Mason Center. 775-0991.

New Meat Campus Theater

Allan Alan Pictures presents the premiere screening of the new erotic farce, "The Bare Dick Project," hosted with the comedic talents of Blake Smith. \$15. 9pm. Also on Oct. 7 (with Blake Smith and stars of the Bare Dick Project). 220 Jones St. (at Turk St.). 673-3384.

Sat 7

Project Artaud

Open Studios: This cultural complex, including more than 70 individual

artists' live/work studios occupied by visual artists, sculptors, writers, photographers, and print makers, performing artists of all disciplines, electronic media creators, as well as film/video makers. Public spaces include Southern Exposure Gallery, Theater Artaud, Theater of Yugen, and A Traveling Jewish Theatre. Featuring artworks by Bernard Rauch, Jonah Roll, Jeffrey Blankfort, Clarence Towers, Jane Grossenbacher, Janice Taylor, Ken Cooper, Ricky Weisbroth, E. Dale Erickson, Carrie Nardello, Pico Sanchez, Jean Weinbaum, Keith Bjorkman, and Pepe Ozan. Music by Phil Deal. Free. 11am-6pm. 499 Alabama St. 621-4240; www.artaud.org

Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy

Open Studios: GLAA artists will present a diverse body of works at their 10th Annual Open Studio exhibition today and tomorrow. Exhibiting gay and lesbian artists include Bruce Biada (digital imaging), Gregg Cassin (provocative collages, spiritually charged with religious symbols), Rob Costin (male nudes and abstract compositions), Steve Dell (photographs of male nudes using infrared and alternative effect film processes), Kevin Dunn (representational to abstract landscape paintings), Michael Hackett (landscape painting and his "Swimmer Series"), Ruben Joy (found objects as art pieces), Terry Marasco (unembellished nature images), Robert Morgan (oils and watercolors, mostly of guys enjoying the outdoors and each other), Frank Pietronigro (art that weaves traditional and nontraditional modes of expression), Chris Westbrook (photos of contoured landscapes, bodyscapes and surfaces), Kerry Rutz (paintings of the brutal murders of Allen Schindler, Matthew Shepard and others), and Guy Wonder. Free. 11am-6pm. Also on Oct. 8. 4235 19th St. (at Collingwood). Info: www.egroups.com/group/glaa2000

Studio Shanghai West

Open Studio: "East Meets West 2000," works by artist and photographer Freddie Niem. Born in Shanghai, China, Niem has lived in SF for 20 years, working as an artist and photographer for 15. He has been very involved in the Gay Asian/Pacific Islander movement, and his photographs of Asian men have been published in *Sons of the Moon* (Orchid House Press). Noon-6pm. 119 Collingwood St.

Belcher Street Studio Artists

Open Studios: The largest gallery and artists' studio space in the Castro and Haight, Belcher Street Studios, continues to be both a hidden refuge for artists and a treasure for art lovers and collectors. Featuring works by

artists Julie Alland, Jennifer Brazelton, Mark Dong, Brandon Fernandez, Tim Gaskin, Peter Howells, JoAnne Johnson, Alexis Manhiem, Tom Michelson, James Sanders, Evan Smith, Trevor Southey, Charles Stinson, Rebecca Szeto, and Sandra Yagi. Free. 11am-6pm. Also on Oct. 8. 69 Belcher St. Info: 626-8349.

SFMOMA

Opening/symposium: "Celebrating Modern Art: The Anderson Collection," the largest exhibition ever installed at SFMOMA. Three floors of gallery space will be given over to the display of more than 330 paintings, sculptures, and works on paper by nearly 140 artists of international renown from the superb private collection of Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Anderson. Curated by Gary Garrells. Featuring a "collection of collections," organizing diverse works into five areas of focus: The New York School (Mark Rothko, Willem de Kooning, Jackson Pollock, etc.); Art in California (Robert Arneson, Richard Diebenkorn, Sam Francis); Contemporary Art; Modern Sculpture; and Works on Paper. An all-day symposium will be held with artists and contributors to the exhibition catalogue. \$9 gen'l. adm. (\$6 seniors; \$5 students). 11am-6pm. 151 Third St. 357-4000; www.sfmoma.org

Eureka Valley Recreation Center

New Leaf Outreach to Elders invites all LBT women 60 and older for a free self-defense class. Learn physical and verbal skills to deter aggression, as well as prevention strategies. Also, discuss the different forms of violence members of the community must confront. Free. 10am-noon. 100 Collingwood St. Info: Valerie at 255-2937, ext. 308.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Varla Jean Merman (Jeffery Robertson) lights up the stage in "Enough About Me: An Unauthorized Autobiography," in which she lays bare her deepest secrets. A story of self-abandonment, set to music. Will she discover she's worthy of love? \$25 Fri. & Sat., \$20 Wed. & Thu. Thru Oct. 28. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). 861-8972.

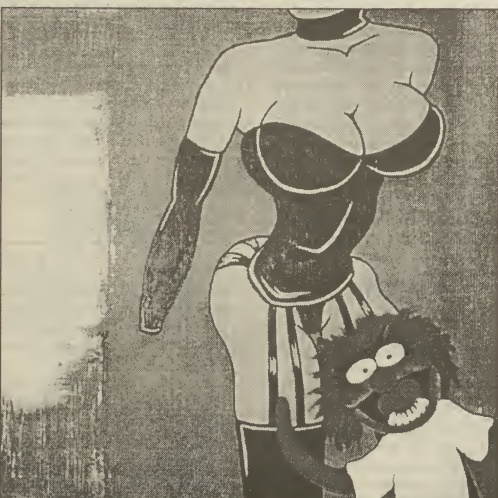
ATA Gallery

Other Cinema presents "Outsider Sounds," a feature-length program of obscure, underground, novelty and cult musical performances on film (and some video). The second half is given over to the revival of Don Owen/Donald Brittain's 1965 b/w profile "Ladies and Gentlemen...Mr. Leonard Cohen," an ultra-rare opportunity to see the (young!) Canadian poet-troubadour. Plus samples from Vaudeville, soundies, Scopitones, and TV kinescope. Videos from Negativland. \$5. 8:15pm. 992 Valencia St. 824-3890.

Sun 8

PFLAG/St. Francis Church

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays hold their monthly program, today with a panel on "Siblings of Gays." How do siblings feel



Opening party: **New works by Kia Tyrrell at Glama - Rama!** Sunday, October 8, 6-9pm. 417 South Van Ness at 15th St.



Three, by Christopher Westbrook, 2000, part of the GLAA Open Studios exhibition at Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy. For details about ArtSpan's SF Open Studios 2000, surf www.sfoopenstudios.com

about having a gay sister or brother? How does the family dynamic change when a family member comes out? What are some of the stresses and challenges in having a gay family member? A panel of siblings will share their experiences. Free. 2-3pm PFLAG support group (everyone welcome); 3-4pm program. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St. (at Market). 921-8850.

Paradise Lounge

The Tuck & Roll Players present "Club Inferno," a rock & roll drag review starring Connie Champagne, Arturo Galster, Leigh Crow, Trauma Flintstone, Kennedy, Peter Fogel, and Birdie-Bob Watt. \$15. 7:30pm. 308 11th St. 621-1911.

Mon 9

Piaf's

QComedy.com presents Gay Comedy Showcase, hosted by Chris Maltby, who hosts "Queer as a Three Dollar Bill" at Seattle's Comedy Underground, plus musical guest Helen Slayton-Hughes, Regina Stoops, Erin Souza, Cabell Wilkinson, Bill Santiago, Nick Leonard, and Bridget Schwartz. \$5. 8pm. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). 541-5610.

Tue 10

Stop AIDS Project

"Deeper Love — Coming in Queer: Making & Reclaiming Black Families, Part 2," an intimate group for Black gay and bi men to explore how to find support and encouragement in the places they call home, through written exercises, personal stories and art. Free (registration required). 7-10pm. 2128 15th St. (at Market, near Church St. MUNI). Info: 575-0155; email mike@stopaids.org

Wed 11

Shelton Theater

Killing My Lobster presents "Killing My Lobster Races the Dead," comedy vignettes for the existentially challenged. Mortality got you down? Wishing someone would put the "fun" back in funeral? Join the Lobsters for a few giggles at The Grim Reaper's expense. \$15. 8pm. Thru Oct. 29. 553 Sutter St. (at Mason). 267-0642.

A Different Light

Mark Doty reads from his book *Firebird*. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro Street. 431-0891.

Thu 12

Crucible Steel Gallery

Opening reception: "Gather," works by sculptors Carrie Luker (a piece composed of some 10,000 tiny gelatin capsules individually filled with feathers of local birds), Laurilu (reusable tote bags made with recycled plastic shopping bags), Yancy Yesovich (rust patterns on plastic bottles), and Jeanne Rogowski (beeswax quilts). Free. 6-8pm. Exhibit runs thru November 1. 2050 Bryant St. Info: 648-7562.



Ganda Bherundasana, bronze, 15" x 15" x 7.5", by Charles Stinson part of Open Studios at Belcher Street Studios. See Saturday.



San Francisco V.2, b/w infrared photograph, by Steve Dell, 1993. Part of GLAA Open Studios at Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy.

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LEATHER SCENE

Bluegrass and black leather

by Mister Marcus

Heavy hitters in the leather community converged in the city famous for the Kentucky Derby, mint juleps, cheap cigarettes and cheap booze. It was the inaugural of the first ever Great Lakes Leather Conference, which featured the Mr. Louisville Drummer and Ms. Kentucky Leather contests.

You couldn't have asked for better weather. It was balmy and in the mid-70s most of the weekend, which started with a meet & greet on Friday night, workshops, a leather mart, and hunky Kentucky leather men and delightful leather women. No doubt about it, former Mr. Great Lakes Drummer Mike White managed to rally the smallish leather community of Louisville and all the surrounding cities — as well as people from Indiana and Ohio — to help him produce the event.

In his first major appearance since winning the title just three weekends ago, Int'l. Mr. Drummer Daniel Clark made an appearance, gave a short energetic speech, and helped sash the new winners of the titles.

Unfortunately, there was only one contestant each for both the male and female titles. But it wasn't a giveaway. They had to earn at least 60 percent of the available points to get the titles. To their credit, even with a seasoned panel of judges scrutinizing them up and down, inside and out,



Don Palmore, left, was named Mr. Louisville Drummer 2000, and Sinsy Moon was named Ms. Kentucky Leather 2000 last Sat. in Louisville.

putting them through the wringer, they both managed to rack up the necessary points.

It was a pleasure being the "presiding judge" with IMsL Pam Meyer, IM Drummer Fraser Picard, IM Drummer Boy Woodie Barnes, NCSF Booster Randy Brown, DC Boys of Leather president Bryan "Pup" Mullikin, former Mr. Florida Drummer Victor Varela and International Mr. Fantasy John Tatum.

The contest was held immediately following a sumptuous banquet on Saturday night at the Holiday Inn, and the service was excellent (just so you know, Louisville has the nicest Holiday Inn downtown that I've seen throughout my travels on the leather sash circuit. And would you believe it — the food there is top notch! Trust me on this one).

LA&M Executive Director Joseph Bean gave a speech that was nostalgic and enlightening, dwelling on the changes in the

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, October 5

In NYC, it's the Throb Party at Studio 253 (253 E. Houston St.) from 2000 to 0100, with a \$15-20 sliding-scale fee. For info, call (718) 788-5122 or email to HeartThrob@aol.com.

Constantines MC beer/soda bust at the Lone Star, from 2000-2300, with a \$7 donation. This one is billed as a "no frills" beer bust, whatever that means.

Weekend, October 6-9

2nd Annual Mr. North Atlantic Leatherman and Leather Boy contests at the Utica Tri's MC big leather weekend in Utica, NY. Jimmy Lee Murray and Randie Smith pass their sashes to worthy successors. It's a vibrant leather community in Utica and all the surrounding towns. I'll be there judging, so you'll get exclusive coverage of the results, here and nowhere else!

Onyx of Chicago presents Blackout V, their 5th anniversary weekend party, and the selection of Mr. and Ms. Mid-America Leather, who will go on to compete for the American Brotherhood Weekend titles next April. All the action takes place at the world-famous Cell Block. (Hi Patti!)

Friday, October 6

It's the first Friday of the month and that means one thing: It's boots and boot-lovers night at the Loading Dock, with Stompers Boots the hosts. "Driller" and John Bernal will be offering up free boot shines, and you can revel in the love of boots and the men who wear them all night.

Saturday, October 7

Stranded in Chicago? Go to the world-famous Cell Block for the Mid-America Mr. and Ms. Leather contests; winners will compete at ABW in Washington, DC next April. Always a fun time at the Cell Block.

Sunday, October 8

The Phoenix Uniform Club hosts the beer/soda bust at the Eagle from 1500-1800 for \$8, which in-

cludes food. Also a uniform contest, big boot contest, raffle for a Leather Pride Flag stained glass window and a leather uniform shirt with local patches. Don't miss it!

Wednesday, October 11

The Ring presents Bondage Night workshop on knots from the sublimely simple to the highly ornamental types. For location and info, email the_ring@ix.netcom.com.

If you'd rather squish around in foreign waters, it's Wet Wednesday at 933 Harrison. Doors open from 2000 to 2300 only. For more info, call 863-HEAD.

Saturday, October 14

Cal Eagles MC ride to Danville and a visit to the Black Hawk Auto Museum. Meet in front of Daddy's at 0830 and depart at 1000 with \$\$\$ for lunch, bridge tolls, admission to museum etc. For more info, click on: www.bkackiris.com/~CalEagles.

Hoedown 2000 by Ingu Yun at the Galleria, to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund, with \$25 tickets in advance or \$30 at the door; lots of entertainment by the Barbary Coast Cloggers and others, including the Bare Chest Calendar 2001 men, a silent auction, and dancing the way you like it. Tickets at DYMK. For info, call 699-5764 or click on: www.sundance.freehosting.net.

Sunday, October 15

Hank Plante of KPIX (Channel 5) is the honorary starter for the Shanti "Ride for Life" to the Russian River. Hearty lunch after arrival at the Northwoods Restaurant in Monte Rio. For more info: 415-674-0370 or email to rperry@shanti.org. You can click on www.shanti-rides.org.

Wednesday, October 18

Wear your snazziest skivvies to 933 Harrison tonight for Underwear Buddies party. You know the rules and the location. Doors open from 2100 to 2300 only. For more info call 863-HEAD.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Hello, sailor

by Jim Provenzano

Sailor: Vintage Photos of a Masculine Icon edited by Kevin Bentley; Council Oak Books, \$24.95

With Fleet Week once again invading the Bay Area, one book's release is perfectly timed. *Sailor* gathers from private collections over 150 never-before-published snapshots and portraits spanning more than a century of maritime experience. The photographs in this book offer close-up glimpses of an iconic figure often stereotyped, frequently desired, and sometimes gay.

Collected and compiled by Council Oak's Kevin Bentley, who wrote the text for the more overtly erotic *The Naked Heartland: The Itinerant Photography of Bruce of Los Angeles*, *Sailor* implies a similar vintage sensuality, but with no nudity, and a great deal of

subtlety.

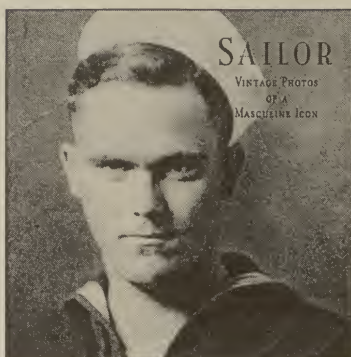
Sailors seem to like touching each other, and happily pose with arms over each others' shoulders, smiling wistfully. Also included are a few pictures documenting the strange hazing incidents of the "Crossing the Line" ceremonies.

The images comprise a unique record of exuberant youths on leave and masculine camaraderie onboard, intriguing as artifacts and occasionally breathtaking in visual beauty. From tintypes to Brownie snapshots, each picture offers both the mystery of intimacy and nautical masculinity. They provide a fascinating and very human window on a mythic past.

While not overtly gay, the entire collection is permeated with a

homosocial air long-gone, shattered by recent decades of murders, harassment and discrimination. As the Blue Angel jets equally shatter eardrums with their aerial assault, take refuge in the historical charm of *Sailor*. ▼

Kevin Bentley signs copies of *Sailor* at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro Thurs., Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m.



Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

Leather/BDSM lifestyle, and speculating on what the future might hold. He received a standing ovation.

Afterward, Shann Carr emceed (brilliantly) the event with a little help from Randy Brown, and a troupe of women billed as the Matt Sexton & Company raised the roof in their drag king act. It was hot!

When tally master Mike Zuhl (of Drummer Contests, inc.) finished his duties, it was announced that Sinsy Moon would become Ms. Kentucky Leather 2000, and Don Palmore would be titled Mr. Louisville Drummer 2000.

Sinsy will compete at IMsL next July. Don will compete at Mr. Kentucky Drummer in May and, if he prevails there, he will have to compete at the Great Lakes Drummer contest later in 2001 in Columbus, Ohio.

The Great Lakes Leather Conference might not have had the biggest crowd(s) on the sash rash circuit, but the consensus from all who attended is that it was a very worthy and rewarding effort. It takes a lot of moxie to organize a first-time effort of this magnitude. Mike White took the initiative and energy to make a difference, and the leather community applauds his efforts. Leather is alive and well in Louisville and believe it or not, the grass there does have a blue tint.

It is hoped this event will continue and it will grow. With the success of this first-time effort, it seems reasonable to assume Louisville will be one of the major stops on the leather circuit in the future.

'Drummer' on the WWW

Whether *Drummer* Magazine will ever again appear in print in your favorite book or leather store is open to conjecture, and depends on whom you talk to. You can believe the magazine will not

be on store shelves anytime in the near future, but the big kahunas in Amsterdam who own it are making a major push to let you know that *Drummer* is now available for subscription online. There is a fee involved, of course, and this move portends to be the modus operandi for many feature publications in the 21st century. As an inducement, know that access to the Website is free for three months and thereafter, only \$24 for six months. There are 750 photos of the International Mr. Drummer 2000 contest up on the site now.

This is good news, but still, we do look forward to the day when a printed copy of *Drummer* will be available for that one-handed reading so many of us like to do!

Speaking of Amsterdam (weren't we?), Rob of Amsterdam — one of the premiere leather stores in all of Europe — celebrates its 25th anniversary this coming Saturday, October 7. The local major publication, *Gay Amsterdam* has written an in-depth article on this mainstay of Amsterdam's leather emporiums. From here in San Francisco, we extend best wishes for continued success with the store.

At my deadline, I had received no reports on the Golden Gate Guards MC weekend run to Lake

Mendocino, but I am sure there is plenty of dish to hear about. Hey, fall is here so go harvest your traps!

For leather info from columnists around the world, by all means, click on www.leather-page.com. Do it today.

Honored one

On Wednesday night, October 6, Alan Selby was pleasantly surprised when 50-60 people showed up in the upper loft of Mister S Leathers to honor him with the Selby Award. The honor is bestowed once every two years to a deserving "fun" person in the leather community. It really is a fundraising drive to collect donations for the Leather Archives & Museum ("located in Chicago and serving the world!"). It is hoped the leather community will be able to garner in the vicinity of \$2,000 a month from credit card pledges. It is also hoped that as many of you as possible can make a commitment each month. As the regional coordinator for the LA&M, this is Joe Gallagher's baby and of course, babies need to be nurtured!

In closing, remember, keep living, keep laughing and keep loving. Just do it in leather! See you next week! ▼

COCKTAIL HOUR

The Emperor has new clothes

by Sweet Lips

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 28, Emperor's Night Out, an evening with His Most Imperial Majesty John Carrillo in drag! Details to follow; watch this space.

Join the chosen people in a Victory Party for newly elected Grand Duke Greg Osmon and Grand Duchess Angelina, hosted by Marlena's in Hayes Valley, on Sunday, October 8 at 5 p.m. The MC will be that self-described "Black Bitch Herself" Toby. We're promised food, a raffle and lots of fun, and all performers (you know who you are) are welcome.

The Lone Star Saloon is having their Anniversary Party on Tuesday, October 17, starting at 5:05 p.m., catered by Dennis "To Cerviche With Love" Tyler. Congratulations, big guys!

Belated birthday greetings to Emperor Steve Rascher, who got another year younger on August 26.

The Club Rendez-Vous presents Ronnie Lynn's birthday party, celebrating 30 years in San Francisco, featuring L. James' display of Ronnie's awards and photos, on Saturday, October 14, 4-10 p.m. Sounds like lots of great fun, so don't miss it. ▼

Correction

In last week's column entitled "A beautiful bonanza," two runners-up for the International Deaf Leather contest were inadvertently omitted. They are first runner-up John Rhodes, and second runner-up Steve Meyers. We regret the oversight.

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Wed. Oct. 12th



Powerful Therapy That Fits the Way You Live

LOWER VIRUS LEVELS—LONGER

SUSTIVA is effective long-term in combination treatment of HIV-1 infection. In clinical studies, combination therapies containing SUSTIVA were proven superior to an indinavir or a nelfinavir containing regimen in lowering the virus to levels that were undetectable.¹ In one study, SUSTIVA in combination with two NRTIs kept it at those levels for more than two years.²

TAKE IT JUST ONCE A DAY

SUSTIVA fits the way you live because you take it just once a day. Bedtime dosing is recommended during the first few weeks to improve tolerability of nervous system symptoms. It can be taken with or without meals, however high-fat meals should be avoided. There's no need to drink lots of liquid.

GENERALLY TOLERABLE SIDE EFFECTS

SUSTIVA is generally well tolerated, with no long-term toxicities observed.

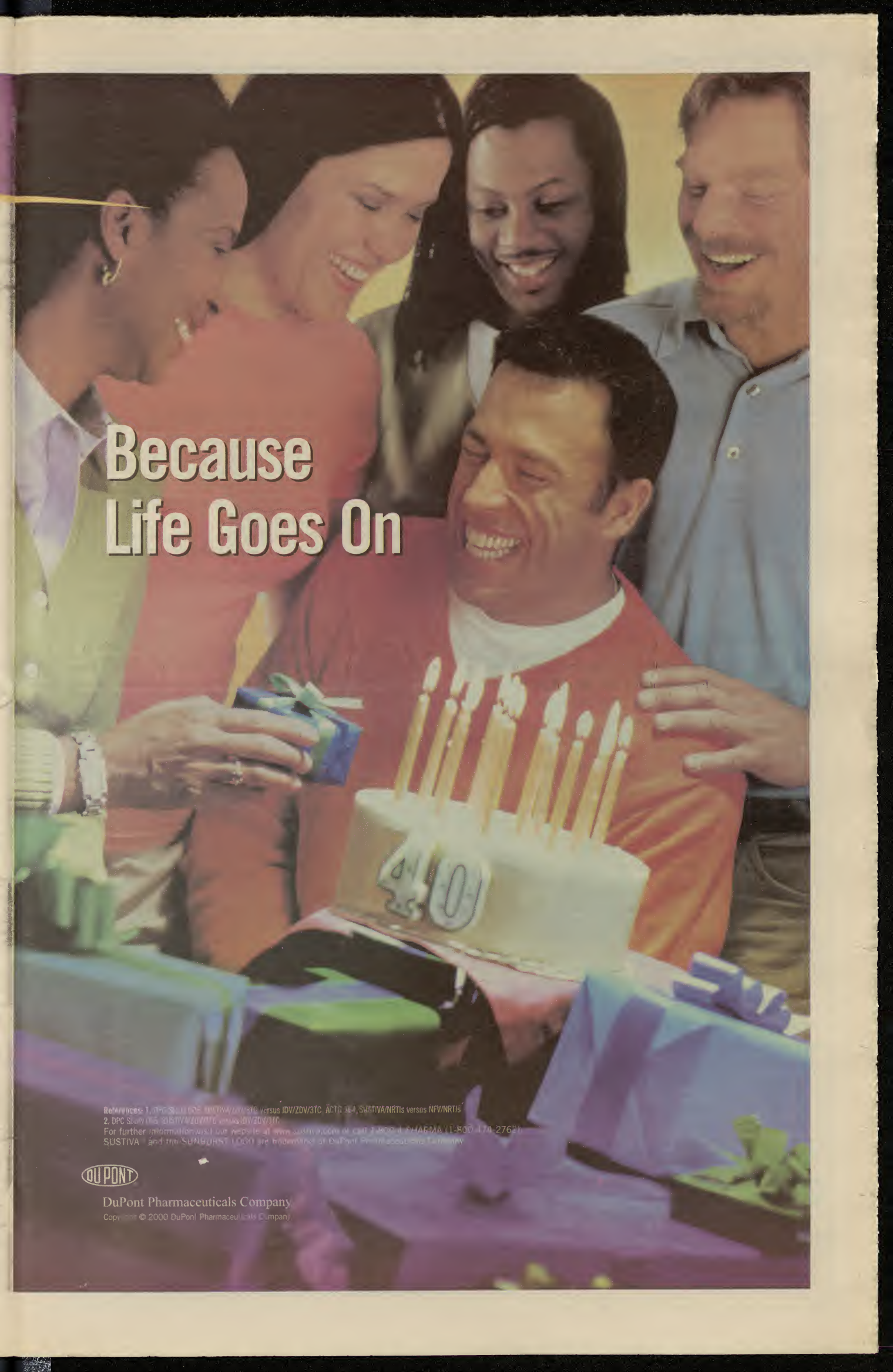
SAFETY INFORMATION

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting SUSTIVA. They tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. If you have these symptoms, you should contact your doctor immediately to discuss your therapy. There have been a few reports of suicide, but SUSTIVA has not been established as the cause. Mild to moderate rash is a common side effect of SUSTIVA. Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in animals given SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA should not be taken by patients who are also taking any of the following: Hismanal® (astemizole), Propulsid® (cisapride), Versed® (midazolam), Halcion® (triazolam), or ergot derivatives as there is the potential for serious and/or life-threatening side effects.* See Patient Information about SUSTIVA on the following pages.

*The brands listed are registered trademarks of their respective owners and are not trademarks of DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company.



Once Daily
SUSTIVATM
efavirenz

A photograph of a man in a red sweater celebrating his 40th birthday. He is smiling broadly, looking at a white birthday cake with lit candles and the number '40' on it. He is surrounded by four family members (three women and one man) who are also smiling and looking at him. A woman on the left is holding a small blue gift box. In the foreground, there are several wrapped gifts in blue and purple paper.

Because Life Goes On

References: 1. DPC Study 005: NRT100/IDV3TC versus IDV/ZDV/3TC. ACTG 384. SUSTIVA/NRT100 versus NFV/NRT100.
2. DPC Study 005: IDV/NRT100 versus IDV/ZDV/3TC.
For further information, visit our website at www.sustiva.com or call 1-800-4-CHAPMA (1-800-474-2762).
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**SUSTIVA™
(efavirenz)
capsules**

Patient Information about SUSTIVA® (sus-TEE-vah)
for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection
Generic name: efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)

Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk, or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had Hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Some patients have had thoughts of suicide and a few patients have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness. You should contact your doctor immediately if you think you are having these symptoms, so your doctor can decide whether you should continue to take SUSTIVA.

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have severe depression, strange thoughts or angry behavior. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA**:

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA**:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

* SUSTIVA™ is a trademark of DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company.

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Distributed by:
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6495-03/Rev. February, 2000

MUSIC

Krummenacher

◀ Arts cover

along at a fast enough clip to keep it from being dismal. In fact, it's just about the ideal music to pop into the dashboard CD player while cruising highways and backroads across the continent. You could daydream to it. It's definitely not drunken. In that sense, it's a far cry from the Camper sound, which Krummenacher (and probably most Camper loyalists) describes as "weird." Far from being weird, *Bittersweet* makes perfect sense. It's the sound of lessons learned the hard way, with a distinctive but controlled, more mature weirdness all of its own.

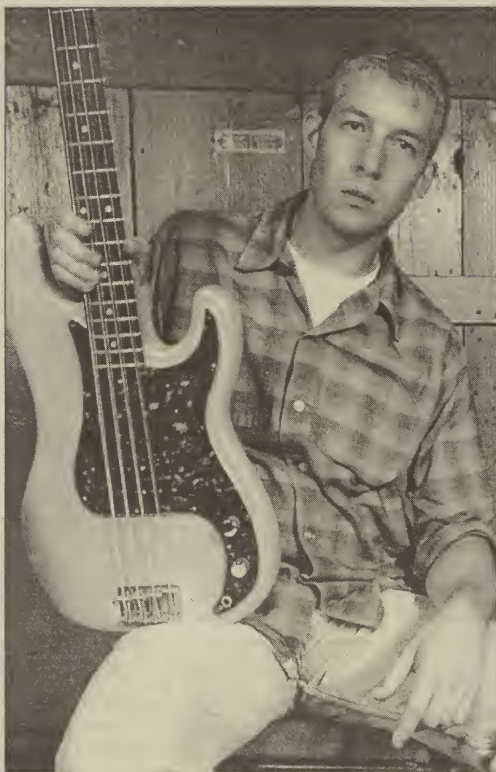
From the start

The title *Bittersweet* could be the summation of Krummenacher's life so far. Right from the start, as a Riverside teenager, he started playing punk-rock gigs, adding peculiar twists and kinks that got him and his bands noticed:

"We were playing, like, bad punk-rock covers, kind of country form and weird ethnic instrumentals, and nobody knew what to make of us," recalls Krummenacher. "We played with the Dead Kennedys, The Minutemen, Husker Du, SST and all those bands of that period."

It was with the Camper crew that Krummenacher came to claim maximum recognition, while gaining substantially in musicianship. Though the Camper lineup varied during its brief existence, Krummenacher and songwriter David Lowery were the two members in the band from start to finish.

"It started when I was 18, literally about a week after I graduated from high school," says Krumme-



Former Camper Van Beethoven bassist Victor Krummenacher

nacher. "David was about five years older than me, and he was going to school at UC Santa Cruz." Eventually the Camper lineup coalesced into a five-person crew, with Greg Lisher on guitar, Lowery on vocals and guitar, Chris Pedersen on

drums, Jonathan Segel on strings, and Krummenacher on bass.

In 1985, REM heard a copy of the first Camper album, *Telephone Free Landslide Victory*, and literally stopped their bus in Arizona to

page 48 ▶

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PARTING GLANCES

"Sam" You Are On My Mind!
Badlands on 9-2. After blow jobs in my car, we went to Concord and slept together. I can't stop thinking about you. Call me. ☎ 72413

Supercuts Fillmore Sun. 3/00
Me: GAM, glasses, hand mirror. You: WM, white tee, by the door, your hair cut after me. R u gay? single? dinner? ☎ 72380

Mollie Stones SF Sept. 12
You: At checkout, your goatee frames & great smile. Me: in blue AIDS ride shirt, sniffing pineapples, fruit salad, perhaps? ☎ 72411

Sexy Asian On Castro 9/16
You: attractive Asian man with great eyes. Me: man in blue shirt walking with friend. We both turned around to look again. Let's meet. Call me. ☎ 72437

SFO United Shuttle 9-10 8am
Me gray beard, when boarding asked if you were going to Palm Spgs- you said Sacto- would like to get to know you. Let's talk. ☎ 72436

Handsome Asian Reading Flash 4
Sunday 9/10 @ 10:30am in Cafe Flore. Navy blue shorts, gray shirt, stunning smile, youthful. Exchanged glances/ smiles. Me: blond guy near entrance in corner. Love to meet— you? ☎ 72383

A Longshot Wed 8/31 7pm Gold's Market Street. Me: rushing to Yoga, You: freshly showered. Said "Hi" at sinks. Can't stop thinking about that smile and all the possibilities. Call ??? ☎ 72363

"Cute Butt"
Tues, 22 Aug, 4 pm ish; corner 16th/Market: adorable man wearing baseball cap, going to Cafe Flore, met friends... shy muscular Black, admirer, wants to meet you- call! ☎ 72339

Kent Met Castro And 18th.
You gave me J.D.'s phone # and walked away with my heart. I should have gotten yours. Tried everything to locate you. Please respond and give me a second chance. Dave. ☎ 72381

Steamworks 9/6, Sling Room
I'm lean, buzzed bottom. You checked out my buttplug, got me dogstyle, rode me. I came quick because room time was up. How about a long night with your fist, my sling? ☎ 72382

Seeking Telephone Man Martinez
You are tall, blond, blue eyes, 47yo. work for Pac Bell. We met at American River 7/12. I'm from Virginia City. We kissed. Can't get you out of my mind. ☎ 72379

Chow Fri 9/8 7:30pm
You: Hung eating at counter turning around to check us out. Us: muscled, redheaded, goatee, glasses and hunky goateed daddy with huge arms. You left smiling. Want more? ☎ 72384

Saw You On Sunday 9-15 @ 5:30pm
You: GWM, 20's, short brown hair, nice smile. Me: GWM, s&p hair, white shirt, glasses. We got off at Church Street. You went right. I waved and went left. Meet? ☎ 72408

Passport Thurs/ 14 Sept.
We exchanged glances and smiles on bus. You wore a dark suit and carried a goody bag. I wore a green hooded pullover. Let's clarify those glances and smiles. ☎ 72409

Mechanics Library
Muni subway. Friday evening Sept. 15. You: handsome man with goatee and beautiful eyes. Me: bow tie and beard. Discussed Agatha Christie. Please call! ☎ 72410

Matt, Heard You Sing At Mint
You: Asian, great smile, beautiful Spanish and French songs. Let's meet for dinner. Me: White, 6'0", professional, can't stop thinking about you. Was too shy to say hi. ☎ 72412

Malaysian Ken-Andrew
Watched sunset, said I love you, then messed up everything. I am forever sorry. All my fault, saw you Hayes bus Sept. 12. You look awesome blond. Call me Andrew. ☎ 72414

Great America Tues 8/22
You: grey shirt, kiki shorts w/ 3 friends in front of me, and my friend on Ultimate Sky Dive Ride. Me black shorts, white tank. I'd really like to talk! ☎ 72338

On Muni 09/12 Noonish
Boarded at Castro. You reading newspaper. We talked about U.S. dollar becoming national currency in Central America and the proximity of dentists versus chiropractors. No time to finish, I'd like to. ☎ 72433

Kevin-Back Gov'd W/Tatts-Folsom
Dooway, late afternoon. I'm very tall, built, hairy. I was busy, asked how I'd find you. You'd find me 'cause I'm easy to spot. You didn't; my turn. Call Sailor. ☎ 72434

Cute Asian Ballard Master 8-28
Me: was with a group at the Mint. Didn't have the chance to talk to you. 5'10", White, ygl. You: about 5'8", Asian, dressed all black, glasses. Call Jeremy. ☎ 72435

El Ambiente Man Sat 9/23 3pm
Bench. You: sitting with friends on bench near Laticias, beautiful smile. Me: cap and cut-off jeans. Have seen one another at Ambiente. Let's talk! ☎ 72438

Denny-Eagle/Lone Star Sun 8/27
Lost you before exchanging numbers. You: Latino, great smile, hot PA Me: Leatherman, gave you my hanky to flag. In common: brains, masculinity, life-altering childhood event. Let's connect. ☎ 72337

Sunset Market Sat 9/23
You: Caucasian, blond, white t shirt. Me: Asian, cargo short, dark gray shirt. Can't stop thinking about your kind words of the photograph. Would like to return the compliment. ☎ 72439

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

~Sane, Fun, Normal Guy!!~
GWM, 39, fit, healthy, 6ft, 175lbs, sense of humor, stable, bright seeks GWM 35-45, HIV-, confident, interesting, fun regular guy to date, get to know, LTR? ☎ 72341

Hot Bottom, Poetic Soul
Passionate, patient and reliable. Languages, traveled. Well preserved 60. Chubby, hairy, 5'8", b, b, 175lbs. Prefer bigger but open to all types. Race, age, don't matter if you can do it. ☎ 72343

Only One Thing Missing- LTR
You: Asian Pacific or Latino, probably over 60 (maybe not). Me: attractive, GWM, 5'10", 190, White hair, retired professional. Together: enjoy walking on beach, flying kites, discovering each other. ☎ 72344

Friends? LTR? HIV+ East Bay Boy
Aren't there any great looking HIV+ guys looking for a great relationship? I'm 31 y.o. tall good looking & seek a slender cute & hot lover. I'm romantic sweet & honest UB2! ☎ 72346

Handsome Young Russian
Looking for another intelligent Russian or European in his 20's or 30's to give my body and soul. You shall not be disappointed. ☎ 72388

Queer Tantrik Master
Erotic/spiritual ecstasy thru austere lifestyle, chastity discipline, yoga breath meditation, depth sensual involvement with fit prof. GWM 54. For pervers seeking growth/ LTR. ☎ 72364

Seeking Well Hung Top For Play
48, GWM, attractive, average build, sexy and versatile is seeking well hung top of average build for regular play sessions. Safely only! ☎ 72365

Can Old Dogs Learn New Tricks?
Attractive mature WM life long pussy eater seeks senior citizen with "6" or more to teach me how to suck your cock. Possible on-call cock service as needed. ☎ 72366

Clean Cut GWM 42
Seeks 35 to 45yo top 6'3", 200lbs, professional s&p hair, blue/green eyes, HIV-. Enjoy travel, music, movies & more! Let's do it! HIV-only pls. LV. msg. ☎ 72367

POZ GWM For POZ GAM
41yo GWM, 152, 5'8" versatile bottom in search of GAM who is also HIV+. Looking for a good time and maybe more. I'm a loving and sweet man. ☎ 72385

GAM Seeks GWM40ongoing Partner
Affectionate & caring GAM 5'9", 142 for mature GWM: HIV- N/S/D; open LTR. Slender/slim and bottom a plus. ☎ 72440

GWM 32 5'7" 175 Br/Gr POZ Musc
Funny, sensitive, caring, sensual ISO GWM any race in shape, sexy, minimal attitude, who likes exercise, eating, dancing, laughter & pleasure of the flesh. ☎ 72386

Affectionate Mature Men
WLM 45, 160lbs, dk hr. ISO mature men 55+ for deep kissing, oral pleasure & affection. Full/long beards, non-buffed, liberal-minded a plus. No gay lifestyle, drugs, but smoking is ok. ☎ 72387

How About A Date
Cute, thin, boyish, GWM 31, 5'11", goatee, East Bay seeks 30-40's beefy GWM. Me? Film student, gym (just started), sense of humor, try new things, you? Great character/personality. ☎ 72389

A Luv Connection At 35+
It get trickier: No 6 pak stomach, nor a bubble butt, and now poz too! Me: GWM, 135#, 5'6", avg. looks. You: in shape top w/similar stats... N/S, N/D. ☎ 72415

Sexual Craving...
Older man will submit to dominant man. Is obedient in all aspects. Edwardian sensibilities & setting. ☎ 72416

Tall Guys Wanted
6'10", 295lbs, clean shaven, handsome caucasian versatile funny down to earth, spiritually aware, established creative professional. Interests, music, movies, outdoors, good outdoors, quite times at home. HIV- please. ☎ 72345

Hunk Seeks 69 Fanatic In S.F.
Hairy, in-shape GWM wants same into mature hunk for mutual oral/nipball action. Me: gym'd, hairy, 5'11", 180, 50, totally oral as me. Prefer Not hung. More than one-night-stand if chemistry, attraction, compatibility. ☎ 72340

"Boy Friend Wanted"
GWM, 5'8"-200# is looking for a boyfriend/lover 25-40 (WM, Asian, Latino). This would be someone who would not usually respond to an ad. Must enjoy cuddling up @ home in the evening, going to the theatre, movie, and outings with a few close friends. I am hopeless romantic. ☎ 72342

Like Nothing You've Ever Known
Rare, masculine, attractive, grounded, athletic, intelligent, a typical quality GWM 38 seeks same, 35+ who's outside the scene, w/integrity, heart, humor. I don't think you exist. Prove me wrong. N/S, HIV-. ☎ 72417

East Bay Muscular Guy
Goodlooking 31 year old 5'11", 180# 32w. Looking for similar. My dog must like you. ☎ 72347

Attractive 36yo WM Seeks HM Or
Middle Eastern for good times. Be attractive with a sense of humor, h/wt prop. Smoker ok. Give me a call. ☎ 72418

West Sonoma County
30ish GM, any race for genuine time together & more. We are both slender, open-minded, single, healthy, somewhat introverted & attractive. N/S, GWM in medical field, 55, 6'. ☎ 72419

Daytime Play & Who Knows?
HIV+, 39, 200#, nice, attractive, seeks men 35-50 to drive crazy in & out of bed. N/drugs, n/alcohol, n/gym bodies. Looking for an honest, real, normal man. LTR? ☎ 72420

Unconventional Professional
Very bright, attractive, athletic, conversational- not glib passionate, discreet, intense, silly, tender, 160, 6', 40's, healthy HIV+, out of gay scene. You're attractive, like-minded. ☎ 72421

GWM 39 Ready 2 Go!
Easy going guy, 5'11", 185lbs., seeks 30-45yo, n/gay guy, who interests in music, theatre, travel & having a good time. Leave a message. ☎ 72422

Sex Partner Desired
By a romantic GWM. Please be Asian, any age for long time relationship. I'm yours anytime. I'm always horny for Asian men. ☎ 72441

Last Chance...
For Scorpio who wants to have the best lover in the world. GWM 40yo. wants to be with you only. Let's talk. I want you so bad, baby. ☎ 72442

Skin To Skin
Attractive easy going comfortable with self tactile 40yo GWM, 5'6", 155lbs. grn/bn healthy in-shape professional. Ub similar age/size build to beefy, honest and fun. ☎ 72443

Man Of Quality Seeks Same
Is any body looking to date a 42yo old professional man? Here I am! ISO 35-45 yr old GWM with a sense of humor and willingness to create a relationship. ☎ 72444

SEEKING ADVENTURE

~"Hot Submissive Asian!"~
5'8", 140# very smooth, swimr bud, tight bubb-but; seeks other 4 bondy, spanky, fstg, groups videos etc. etc. ☎ 72348

NorthBay Sexy Boyfriend Wanted
Wanted sexy guys White/Black to share my girl slut secrets. Maybe be my part time nasty boyfriend. Bi/W/M/M discreet 5'10", 180#, 31yo attr. shaved. All night uninhibited partying. Love to pose for camera. ☎ 72428

Black European
Bottom HIV-, 6'11", 30, masculine, in-shape romantic seeks top, HIV-, 30-50 fit man affectionate who enjoy romance, food, conversation, safer sex encounters. ☎ 72349

Your Personal Cocksucker
Tall hot body guy White/Black to share my girl slut secrets. Maybe be my part time nasty boyfriend. Bi/W/M/M discreet 5'10", 180#, 31yo attr. shaved. All night uninhibited partying. Love to pose for camera. ☎ 72428

Butch Versatile Party Man
Hot & Horny 50 GWM 5'8", 140# HIV+, very versatile with 8" cut cock with big helmet head and ass to match. Looking for partying fuck buddy! ☎ 72351

Una Noche
5'10", 170lbs. GLM early 40's short dark brn hair, brn eyes, mustache seeks hot studs for fun LTR possible friendship. Safety is a must. ☎ 72352

ISO Foot Master
Handsome slender Asian male loves to service attractive dominant men. Verbal a plus. Open to all foot scenes. ☎ 72353

Gourmet Delite
GWM with big clean feet, cut meat. Cum get naked, let me pleasure you with my older tongue and mouth, love to. ☎ 72354

Seeking Submissive Gdtk's Boy
Under 40 to serve as my personal property on a regular basis: son, slave, etc. Daddy-Master is 76, attr, and dominant. "Love and Respect shared!" ☎ 72355

Dad Seek Son
Mid 50's hairy dad slim HIV- seeks W slim son HIV- who likes to suck 7" uncut cock. ☎ 72356

"Big Tongue, Strong Teeth!"
Let me work over your nipples a lot, then you sit on my big tongue and cum on my chest, older a plus- Me 57, thick, beard. ☎ 72357

Spank me!
Boy 24 needs over the knee discipline from a dominant brother. Athletic Jack in speedos. ☎ 72368

Pump My Pussy
Italian bottom studs needs it up the ass on regular basis. Three-ways welcome! Five or more, the better! Cum take a ride! ☎ 72369

Palo Alto Asian Cocksucker 42
5'11", 190# blk-brn sks White men with medium to large cock to suck off with no reciprocation, ub on the mid Peninsula, light skin Blacks welcome. ☎ 72370

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Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

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Name _____ Daytime Telephone _____
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You'd Never Guess

Average ugly duckling 50's, 6', 200# non-sym, HIV- cut, smoker, too, frap small package (until excited), then you're gagging, looking for cut younger bottom for fuck/suck fest. ☎ 72371

What Was Your Teenage Fantasy?
38yo WM 5'7", 120" in-shape seeks other slim White or Asian men to re-live mutual stripping and jo. Daytime preferred. ☎ 72372

GWM 45 Looking To Meet
Others for dating. Me 180#, med bld, 5'9" b/bn, not furry like vanilla & foot-play with 40+ Men furry A+. ☎ 72373

Explore BI Lives
Curious, mature biWM seeks same for conversation about how we view our lives to date and envision the future as our sexual batteries run down. ☎ 72390

"Do Me A Favor?"
Insatiable, uninhibited party boy wants to play long and hard. at your place or hotel. VGL, GBM, 9+ ct. 6', 178. Btm/vers. Hung and serious only. ☎ 72391

Velvet Lined Deep Throat
Submissive cocksucker, 38yrs. 185 buzz, tats, at your service. HIV- looking for masculine man 30-50. HIV-. ☎ 72392

Versatile Hung Party Bottom
Master of anal and oral arts, 50 GWM HIV+, 5'8", 140# looking for other versatile men for party and play time! ☎ 72393

Young European Slave Boy
Is looking for an attractive young master in his 20's or 30's for any required training. Full obedience and cooperation guaranteed. ☎ 72394

East Bay Hispanic
Versatile, nicely endowed with small white ass for your enjoyment. Be HIV- mature, drug free, any race. Am 5'8", 155, HIV- mature, safe sex please. ☎ 72396

"Want To Play?"
GWM, 30's, HIV+ bottom, seeking tops into hot man to man pleasure play. S 72445

BI WM Sucking Older BI. W Guys

Looking for late 40's, 50's, 60's Black & White, older guys for mutual cock-sucking. This late 40's BI WM needs it-Castro area. Weekdays only. ☎ 72397

Black Submissive Seeks
Top hds in good shape body raunch (+) sleaze. Available evenings & some week ends. ☎ 72423

Tight Hairy Butt 4 Uncut Cock
34yo, 6'3" tall, muscular swimmers build masculine, handsome, lt. brown hair/blue, hairy tight butt, hung 7.5", seeks masculine guys with uncut for oral and anal pleasure. ☎ 72424

Homo Hobo!!!!
Homeless dude, sandaled feet, sun-red-dened skin, real holes in jeans, looking for safe fun, togetherness, al fresco? Tight butt from sitting on bottom. A taste of the outdoors? yes? maybe? ☎ 72425

Seeking 50+ Asian Top
GWM, 61, 6', 165#, easy to be with, good looking, balding, avg build, HIV-seeks Asian. Call and let's talk about it. ☎ 72426

I'm A Butt Banger, 47 And Hung
Seeking a masculine, nature, submissive bottom for hot quickies. Conservative appearance and moustache a must. No voicemail, work phone or beards/goatees. Serious only. ☎ 72427

Well-Hung Butch Bottom
Highly sexed 50 year old, GWM, HIV+, 8' cut with big head, loves to party and play with butch tops, who like an aggressive, hot, passionate butch bottom! ☎ 72429

Asian Muscle Tops Wanted
GWM 25, 6'2" 34#, 52#, 13" arms. Me: clean cut, bright blue eyes, mild hair, HIV-, You: smooth, 18-40, work-out, must be dominant top. ☎ 72446

Poet Seeks Illiterate Big Cock
To teach oration skills. Learn classic Greek and Modern, French, analization, gay playwrights enacted. Spanish romances recited. No bookworms. ☎ 72449

Poz GBM Sks GWM Top
38, 165lbs, df smooth, submissive. Don't be PC. Tell me how you want me to take it. ☎ 72453

Looking For Hairy Top

Gay/BI wanted by slim, smooth, hairless & GWM late 30's 5'8", 145# 7" cut-but/cock play open to roleplay/jock-straps/kink. ☎ 72450

Hot Spanish Loves Butt Play & Games
X sexy, masc., 32/5'7"/145 bubble butt loves rimming, butt-sniffing, enemas, toys, jocks & exploring all facets with you; masc. 30-45 bubble butt w/stache, beard/goatee, also three-somes + + San Jose. ☎ 72451

Take Erotic Pics Of Me!
If you have a digital camera and want to take nude and erotic pics of me- call! I'm 34, 6', 155lbs. HWP, attractive, 7'cut. ☎ 72452

My Perfect Sex Mate...
Is an aggressive but versatile top, 35-55, masculine, endowed, HIV-neg, into role play and light SM mixed with affection. Available in the evening, and hairy A+. I'm a handsome, tall, height-to-weight proportionate, 43yo, versatile bottom. If we're a match. Let's play. ☎ 72395

Uncut, Hung-9, Hairy, Masc, Musc
GWM, 50, 5'9", 160, balding, mustache/goatee, versatile dad, ISO masculine fit man, great butt, nice cock, "nipple work" verbal, light s&m, rough, tender, kiss & cuddle. Live on east coast, visiting S.F. Nov. Nude photo required, butt photo get mine. I am HIV-poz! ☎ 72447

SR Seeks SR Daytime Lover/Dad
60-100+, any shape, handicapped, honest, serious, self-assured, healthy, clean, clean-shaven, cut, gentle, non smoking, into necking, fondling & oral sex only. I'm 64, 5'7", 128#. Compatibility rests on chemistry, not common interests. ☎ 72448

Free Massage For The Naked
Soothing body work available for guys with tight bodies from 20 to early 40's. Given trim straight acting guy with talented hands. ☎ 72454

Let Me Take A Photo Of It!
Show me that pretty pink butthole, how about with my finger or tool in it? or? snap! snap! Photographer seeks young in-shape models for fun polioroids sessions. ☎ 72455

LESBIAN

GF Seeks Euro Partner
Whom seeks marriage of convenience w/mutually beneficial rewards. Professional minded. ☎ 72398

FETISHES

Tobacco Users
Wanted by ranch guy. I am looking for dirty tricks at the farm. I am 49, 6'1", 180# & gddg. and a very horny animal. ☎ 72399

Farm Dirt Play
Wanted by ranch guy. I am looking for dirty tricks at the farm. I am 49, 6'1", 180# & gddg. and a very horny animal. ☎ 72399

I'm A 2nd Slave
And don't care. Am 57 & healthy. You order me to prepare buddy's hole, drink w/s, + watch you screw. I clean you & him, then leave. ☎ 72360

Hot Leather Couple In SF 09-21/26
Both 42, HWP, bearded into boots & leather, FF, CBT, lite SMD, nipple work. Versatile, fun players seek same. Same 35-45. Facial hair a must, hung A+++. ☎ 72403

Seeking Serious Nipple Buddy
I'm a 45yr old stocky 190# serious nipple pig with huge erect nipples. Brn/brn, salt & pepper goatee, tats, piercings, smoke cigarettes. Looking for a super masc, muscular dominant nip pig buddy for serious workouts with growth in mind. Please call, smoker + +. ☎ 72374

Heavy Duty Butt Play
South Bay goodlooking, muscular, GWM, 6'3", 190lbs. HIV-, into videos, toys, bondage. ISO muscular top for mutual pleasure and expanding limits. ☎ 72375

Feed Me
Bearded GWM, 36 & handsome, seeks masc. men to enjoy this pig's mouth. WS, dirty rimming, gentle subordination, grap. Cum, relax, open up. ☎ 72377

Buttsniffer In San Jose

Wild sexy GWM 32, 5'7", 150, HIV-bubble butt sniffing, rimming, jocks, spanking, toys, three-ways, sexy games. You give/take the same with bubble butt pref. blonds/brown & bearded. ☎ 72399

Sit Sit Sit On A Face Gently
Flows the stream. Into the mouth into the mouth life is but a scream. Brown brown the nose anything goes anything goes it tastes like ice cream. ☎ 72400

-Hung Bondage Topman-
Me: hung, White, 40, in-shape. You: younger, in-shape, into suckin tool, lickin butt, gettin tied up and fucked (safely). "Call Now, Boy!"... ☎ 72401

Farm Dirt Play
Wanted by ranch animal. I am looking for dirty tricks at the farm. I am 49, 6'1", 185, and gddg and a very horny animal. ☎ 72402

Service Bodybuilder/Biker
Hot hung bodybuilder and biker requires simultaneous front and rear servicing. Join my other hardworking old pig in sweaty rewarding job. Take care of my brown and yellow needs. ☎ 72404

Daytime Asshole-Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 72376

FF Tops Wanted
Masculine 34 in-shape seeking top leather to open, stretch my hole with toys and hands. Let's get those lips big and saggy. ☎ 72405

Hole Punch Buddies Sought
35yo Latino, 5'11", 155lbs, slim build, mostly bottom. Seeking others into punching butt or having own hole punched. Also into large dildoes/ some partying. ☎ 72430

Make Me Fat
GWM, 37, 5'10", 240lbs., brown eyes and beard seeks other Gm gainer/en-courager to make me even fatter. ☎ 72361

Sadist Master Top Needed
By bodybuilder slave/bottom who has been trained not to expect sexual gratification without pain. Slave will respond promptly to any inquiry by an interested Sadist/Master/Top. ☎ 72457

Two Dyke Tops

Want to practice CBT! We are responsible and knowledgeable. We just don't have boyfriends! ☎ 72431

40 Yr Old Piss Top
Needs btm stud to guzzle recycled beer; in shape masc. ub2; no hard drugs-poppers cool; I'm hairy, HWP; no raunch; tourists-hotels welcome. ☎ 72432

Sacramento Enemate
Trim, discreet, 40's WM ISO another male who also enjoys sensual give and take. I can travel. ☎ 72456

ISO S/M FF Tops
I am 5'2", 120 HIV- shaved bottom in Sacramento, ISO S/M FF, hung tops with big toys for safe sex age, race looks unimportant, let's talk. ☎ 72458

Milkman Seeks A Good Gum-job
If you're a "tooth-less tiger" and can dew-throat a big plunger head, you might get more than you thought you would. 6', 42, 170lbs. of laid-back man. Long chewing sessions a plus! ☎ 72459

COUPLES

2 Cocks Are Better Than One
Attractive mature White male seeks couple to take turns jerking-off on my face. Invite a friend or two of yours and make it a facial cum bath party. ☎ 72378

GWM 5'9" 140lbs Blond Smooth
Seeking couples that need a middle man-Tall Dark Handsome, a plus-Aroma ok-double hung adventure. ☎ 72406

OTHERS

-Male Companion Wanted--
Bossy, older, sexy, witty, unconventional bachelor in S.F. wants Boy Friday, Gentlemen's Gentlemen, sexual servant, & Jeeves. Please enquire. ☎ 72362

GWM Seeks Dyke...
Who wears her red and black hankies on the left. 40, 165, 5'10", HIV-. ☎ 72407

Latex Love
Play safe! Wear a condom! ☎ SAFE

Jake Heggie

◀ page 31

gie's undeniable charm. First, there is talent. Heggie writes gratefully for the voice, which is why so many top-line singers champion his work. Secondly, as Summers puts it, "Jake is a pro." Heggie seconds this motion. "I am absolutely, boringly reliable. I never miss a deadline, and I produce exactly what I am expected to. Prima donna temperament is not my thing. I want to get on with the work.

"The most fun for me is not the composition — that's kind of lonely — but the musical collaboration, the rehearsals, those magical moments when the singers bring the characters to life. It's better than sex. It's the most powerful religious experience, and I totally get off on it."

The third aspect of Heggie's success, according to him, is the current economic climate. "When people have discretionary income,

they are more apt to buy something lasting, something beautiful, something that is a luxury rather than a necessity. So they commission art."

Not that music isn't necessary to Jake Heggie. It's his life now, for better or worse. While he's not getting rich, he says, "Commissions pay the light bills, buy groceries, rent. I'm so happy right now. To do something you love full-time and make a living at it is a dream come true." Even if he wakes up after the world premiere of *Dead Man Walking* to the usual carping and mixed reviews — have you ever heard Puccini's or Verdi's first operas? — I suspect Heggie will be cheerfully ready to do it all over again. And each time should be even more fun. ▼

The World Premiere of Dead Man Walking is sold out, but tickets are available for performances through October 28. Call 864-3330.

Ragtime

◀ page 34

ican, and Jewish immigrant — and as credible dramatic creations that can hold an audience's emotional attention.

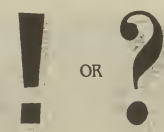
Thanks to McNally's efforts, the opening-night audience at the Orpheum was palpably gripped by the story, with theatergoers visibly leaning forward in their seats as the story unfurled. The high-intensity songs by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty may not linger long in the mind, but are invitingly melodic in the moment and enhance the musical's dramatic epiphanies. Director Frank Galati and choreographer Graciela Daniele have pulled it together into a fascinating kaleidoscope that continues the story's points through its movement as well.

The original Broadway cast was a starry affair, including the considerable talents of Audra Mc-

Donald, Brian Stokes Mitchell, and Marin Mazzie. But it's unlikely anyone will feel shortchanged by the non-name but high-talent assemblage at the Orpheum. These are skilled performers who still find potency in characters that most have been playing for more than a year.

The musical is not without its hitches, including a second act that only belatedly recreates the dramatic thrust of the first, and a finale that is wishful thinking. The production is hardly hampered by scenic distractions, but if money saved on sets has gone toward securing this large and talented cast, the tradeoff is well worth it. If you've been holding off on *Ragtime*, as I did with the Broadway production, now is the time to undo that mistake. ▼

Ragtime will run at the Orpheum Theatre through Oct. 29. Tickets are \$42-\$77. Call 512-7770.



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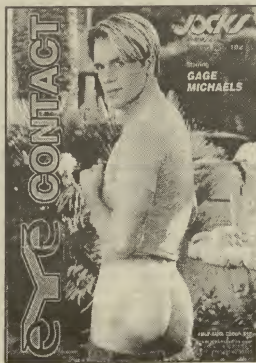
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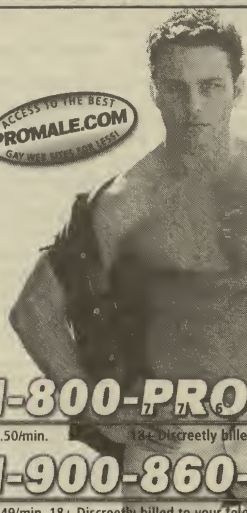
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FILM

Come out, come out, wherever you are



Frameline celebrates National Coming Out Day, next Wednesday, October 11, with *Come Out! Come Out!*, a collection of five short films from this year's 24th SF International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival, at the Castro Theatre. Shows are at 2, 4:30, 7 and 9:20 p.m.

Frank Mosvold encourages us to come out this holiday season in *Home For Christmas*. Kim Cummings' *Weeki Wachee Girls* follows best friends Katie and Maura in the summer of '79. Jennifer Thuy Lan Phang focuses on a dysfunctional family dinner in *Love, Ltd.* In Phillip J. Bartell's *Crush*, 12-year-old Tina and 16-year-old Robbie share more than they know; and in Lawrence Perber's *Birthday Time* (pictured), Christopher is determined to get his first gay kiss by his 18th birthday. ▼

Krummenacher

◀ page 45

call the band and invite them to tour.

After signing a distribution deal with Rough Trade, Camper soon became one of the label's best-selling bands. They were a huge hit on the college/indie circuit.

Reality rocks hard

Krummenacher's life and career are the flip side of fame and fortune in the music business, a tale of immense highs entwined with deep plummets. Among other missteps, says Krummenacher, "there was an odd falling out between Camper and REM over money," a fact that got press

coming-out saga.

"I'm one of those complicated people. When I first got involved with the punk rock scene, most of the people I knew in it were queer in one way or another, whether they were heterosexual or gay. I started sleeping with boys as soon as I started sleeping with girls. All around the same time, about 1980 or so, when I was 14 or 15. I'm pretty sure I knew I was gay then, but I wanted to be in a band, so, you know, that to some degree precluded dealing with my sexuality."

He was having "relationships" with women and "affairs" with men. In Santa Cruz he was picking up soldiers from Fort Ord at the gay bar. He was closeted, but eventually realized many of the musicians he was playing with were gay or bi or somehow queer.

When I was 14 or 15, I'm pretty sure I knew I was gay, but I wanted to be in a band, so, you know, that to some degree precluded dealing with my sexuality."

attention, causing REM to lose trust in Camper.

Tensions had been mounting among the band members, and in 1988 the band unceremoniously fired violinist Jonathan Segal, a move criticized by many hardcore Camper fans who credit Segal for much of Camper's appeal.

The ultimate breakup came in April 1990, when Krummenacher and the other band members "had a huge personal falling out with David. We broke up in Sweden, on tour, in the middle of nowhere, above the Arctic Circle. We'd been fighting continuously. I'd had enough and when I got to that point, I want to walk, and so I did, and that was that. I went on and started doing the Monks of Doom."

Running through all this history was Krummenacher's personal

Some have come out badly, some remain ambiguous, and others, though far fewer, are boldly out.

"When I came out, my band broke up," says Krummenacher. "My life just transformed. I was with a woman for a couple of years, but I'd been having an affair with this guy for a while, off and on, and he basically said — he made no promises, but he wanted to try to have a relationship and I needed to come out. That was important enough to me at the time that I did." ▼

Victor Krummenacher will perform along with Glasstown, Morris Tepper, and Waycross at the Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th St., on Fri., Oct. 6, 9:30 p.m. \$7 cover. Call 621-4455.

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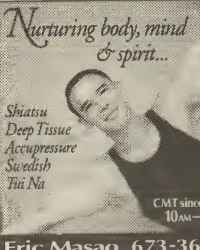
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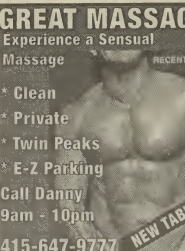
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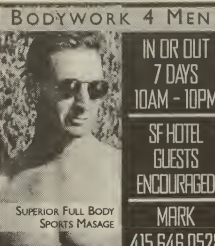
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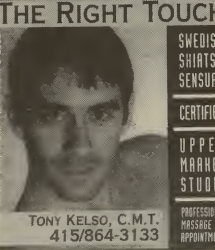


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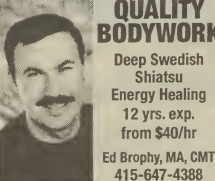
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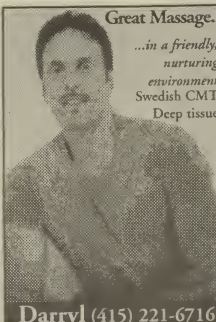
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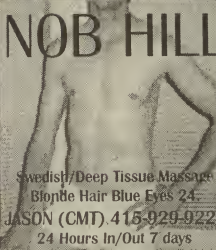
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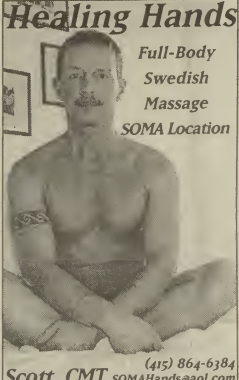
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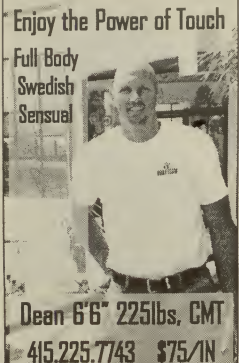
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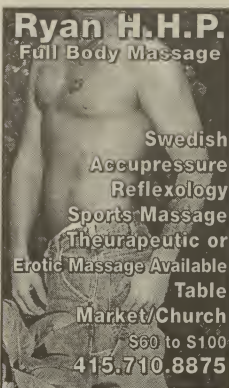
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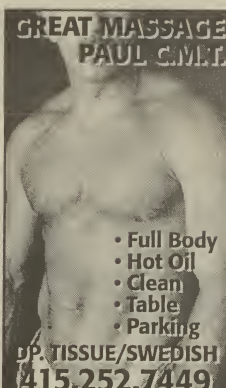
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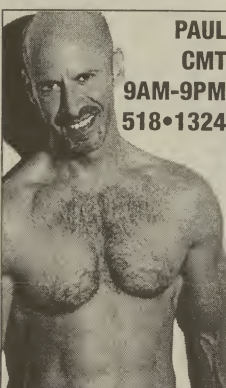
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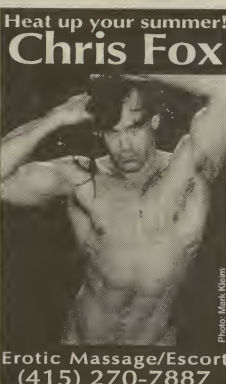


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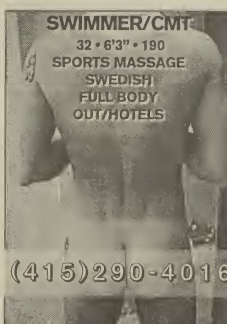
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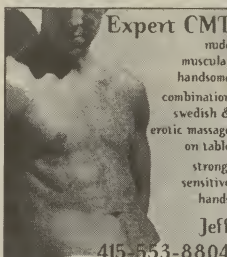
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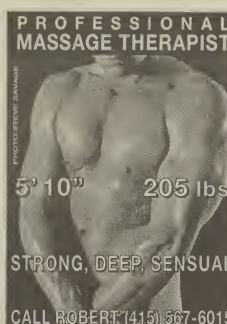
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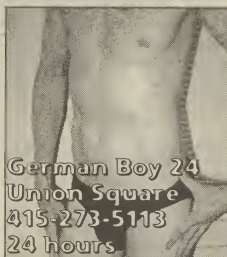
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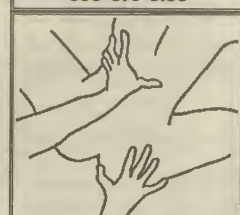
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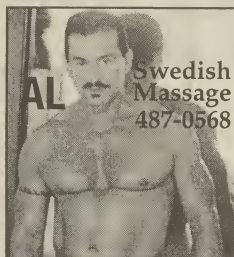
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PERSONALS

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S/M SENSUALITY
-long, & slow- my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
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LATINO



Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs

ASIAN TOP

\$80/\$100 * JIM 267-1817

Mike, 35, 5'10", 200#, Bld/Blu
Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk
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Be the happiest man alive 792-8028

CUTE ASIAN BOY**LEATHER TOP!**

Handsome, Expert Master
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Kicks back for service/oral *24hrs.

10"X 6" *UNCUT*

Big fat tool-552-2370-pgr. 790-6423

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Live to service Men!
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57" 135#sexy,slim,smooth 908-8888

ASIAN PORN STAR

Hot,horny,handsome \$65in/\$85out

Handsome hung Italian 34, 6', 160

CHOKE ON THIS!

Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs
all top masc dominant real 10x7
gentle strength & arousing edge
intlgnt, verbal, kink-2-vanilla
outcalls/hottubs/trav! Bay Area
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SIZE 12 FEET- HOT- TOP

Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195#
Scott (415) 790-0902 In/Out calls

BORN TO SERVE MEN

HOT, HUNGRY, HORNY BOTTOM
AleK, 242-4230, 24hrs. in/out

Frat Boy Hunk

Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs
Deep throat and young jock ass.
5'9",155#,30" w, 8" 739-7312

20YO BLONDE

6ft 165 Smooth
Gym built and beautifully hung
Matt pgr: 560-7456

14 EEE

Foot fetish 837-6112

HORNY HARD & HUNG

Dominant, aggressive, verbal 35yo/
masculine, muscular 6' 190# stud.
Hairy pecs, big biceps, powerful
legs & butt. Hard 8x6c. 207-9045

GOLD MEDALIST

The sculpted 6', 185# Ex Olympian
Smooth, defined, satisfaction2thecore.
Cleancut hotlooks Out 310-2930

Buzzcut 45, gymbody, tats, sensual
Into most scenes in/out 596 3377



S&M TOP
R O G E
Dominant, Experienced
Master of Physical S&M
C.B.T. T.T. BONDAGE
gradual-sensual to intense
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Handsome
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Beautiful
Hazel Eyes
5'11"/175#
Very Well
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MASSAGE
it Needs**

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BLK HANDSOME STUD TOP

Very discreet and friendly
clean slim built with boyish
looks and well endowed also
stays hard first timers
welcome out only
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33yo construction worker stud

HANDSOME BLUE-EYED MAN

w/thick hairy muscles 6', 215#
17", arms, 50"chest, 35" waist
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Tall blond All American muscle
boy kicks/back for oral service
classical, good looks hung x thick
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Hot straight skateboarder and
BMX-biker needs help shooting
HIS HUGE SCHLONG!!
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Handsome 23yo w/packed shorts

SOCCER JOCK

Lean, athletic body- top/vers.
Kevin pg #605-5328 in/out 24/7

Handsome and sexy jock, Italian
6', 180lbs. Hung 8 inches 10am-10pm
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Get Naked/ Relax/ Hug/ Release/ Party/
8"Nudist/ 346-4966/ Ken/ \$80

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Versatile, flexible in many ways
In/out travel 24 hrs 208-8099

POWERFUL STR8 DOM!!!

S&M ok 415-995-7453

GWM top 9 1/2x7,6', 170 gym toned
40 tan goodlooks 864-2974 Clint

SIZE MATTERS- 9X7

Erik 24 hrs any scene 292-4853

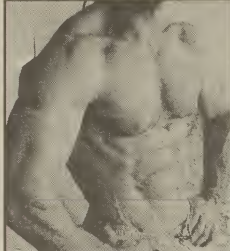
Dominant Leatherman
Bondage,
SM, WS,
C.B.T.,
F.F.,
Fetish,
Slave
Training.
40yo,
6'1", 195#,
Brown Hair,
flat top,
Blue Eyes,
mustache,
7" Uncut.

**Beginners Welcome**

Have equipment and playspace.

Scott (415) 790-0902 In/Out

<http://209.133.75.78/scott/index.html>

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**MUSCULAR
SWIMMER**
washboard abs
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big arms
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5'10, 160#
\$150/hr
excellent top
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**LEATHER/SM/FANTASY**

40yo top 6'1", 195# 7"uncut, flattop
Gdiking into bondage, s/m, w/s,
f/f, cbt, violet wand, toys, boots.
Beginner? Have playspace & equip.
Scott(415)790-0902Pg# In or Out

23YO SAN JOSE**MIDWESTERN FRAT BOY**

6'2", 175, cute, smooth, runners
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tastes! Visit www.EngexGay.com/bar
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9X6 UNCUT TOP

28yo, 6'3", 180,
sexy, sweet & fun
Out only
DANIEL 790-0079

NEW TO YOU

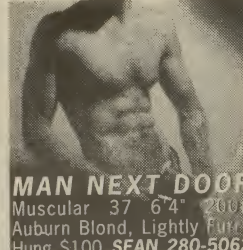
Hot extremely hung 24yo boy/stud
10x6 Vince pager 415 790 3299

6'2"veryhandsome,hung,muscular 27
strictly kick back oral top
\$140 out Kevin 377 4304

CUTE DUM JOCK BOY

W/ big one- lots of fun
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Erotic massage by handsome
gentle daddy age 45 well hung
\$60 outcalls only Dave 503-1629

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Light-skinned sexy 9"

"Quelque vraiment sexy 9"

special pour le Caucasiens

Male!"

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**6' 215# THICK**

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PGR: 201.6533

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St e e l e

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Hot muscular latin boy

PAGER 245-8679

Sexy str8 & classy!

Attractive, kinky & fun!

S/M ok! 415-995-7453

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Nice thick brown tool, Latino

Mex out only 415 789 8094

TALL STUD

Good lookn horse hng jock

6'3", 195#, 9x7, 32yo, furry chest

friendly, \$140, 415-219-4866

RUSTY SAMUELS

Hot red-head 9x6 & pumped

5'10"/165lbs of fun

415-219-5933 pgr.

PATRICK 791-1214

Totally versatile hot, tan,

smooth/shaved 25 6ft 30w 45ch, nice

pecs/tits, shaved nuts+hole/bubble ass,

7.5 cut/fat.

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BEND OVER NOW!

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TOP MAN

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FF, WS, BD, TT, CBT, affectionate

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6'3"

190

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6'1" 8X7

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Hot Jock

28.6'

190LBs

MASCULINE

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46" CHEST.

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CREW CUT • WELL-ENDOWED

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6'2", 190, masculine, solid, buzzed

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By good lking, blind/bl, 6' swimmer.

Friendly, sexy, tender to raunchy.

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BD/SM, prolonged bondage scenes,

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<http://www.bondagemaster.com>

23y.o. 5'9", 140# blk/gr smooth

ORAL BOYTOY \$80 OUT

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BONEHEAD

Jack 219-3725 hndsm&hung 24hrs.

Very handsome, well-hung & goateed

SHVD HEAD STUD

28y.o. top w/big balls for oral.

Enthusiasts*Clint*414-1030*24hr

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SEXY BOY 22YO

Br/br 150lbs and big tool

Let me push your keys

out only \$120 Bay Area 24hrs

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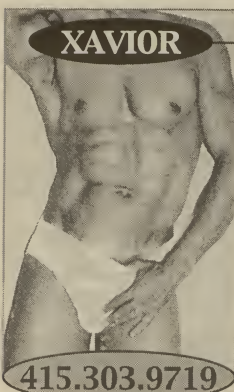
SENSUAL MAN!!

24hrs in/out travel 415 208 8099

NEW LATIN STUD

5'8" 165, 8", pgr 792-0147

MODEL/ESCORTS



XAVIOR

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SOMETHING GENUINE FROM BIG EASY

BL/BL 6'4" VERGE

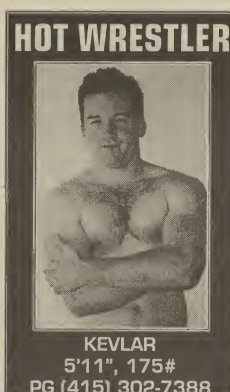
Really loves all men/massages, teaches piano, models, open to more BB sponsors, doesn't price gouge V Pumper. More musc. than pic. Works whole bay area.

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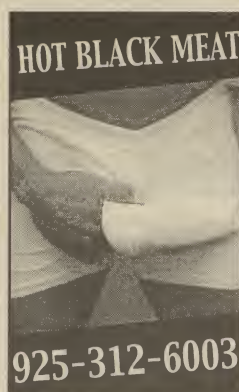
RICH

Hot, 5'9", 180, Tats Uncut, Butch All Scenes Top, FF, WS 24 hrs 219-5034



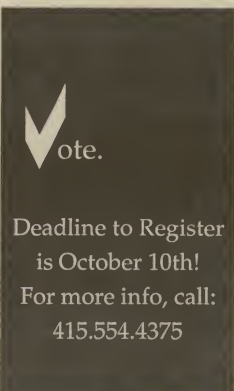
HOT WRESTLER

KEVLAR 5'11", 175# PG (415) 302-7388



HOT BLACK MEAT

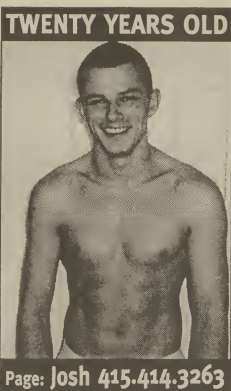
925-312-6003



ote.

Deadline to Register is October 10th!

For more info, call: 415.554.4375



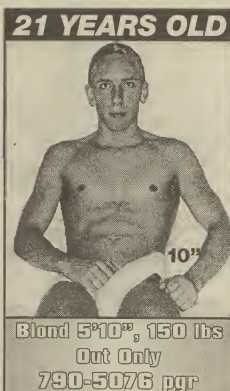
TWENTY YEARS OLD

Page: Josh 415.414.3263



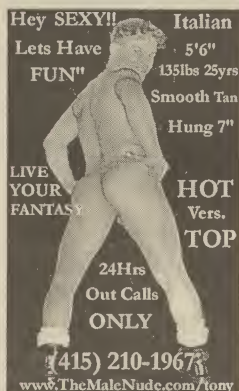
HORSE HUNG FARMBOY

6'3 Butch Top In/Out STEVE (415) 313-4041



21 YEARS OLD

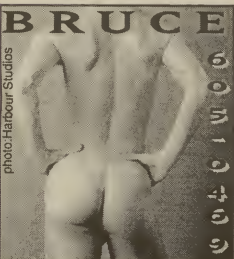
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Italian 5'6" 135lbs 25yrs Smooth Tan Hung 7"

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LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS TAKING HIS TIME. TALL & BUILT, FULL PLAYROOM. RICK 431-0959



9" UNCUT

Hard firm body. 6'11", 140 lbs. Brown hair. Phone 420-2581. E43

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6ft, 275lbs, stach, gote, ftbl plyr bld, hairy and hungry to service 415 820 1658. Out only. Hotels ok HND SM NICE BEAR \$85 E41

PARTY GUY "9"

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28" w 135#, 5'10" 26yo smooth & handsome open-minded & affectionate Mitch 415-393-9020 out only \$150 photo at cyberbellion.com

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Kicks back for service/oral * 24hrs. 10"X 6" *UNCUT* Big fat tool-552-2370-pgr. 790-6423 E40

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BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/Bay Area Ted*(415) 459-3488 E42

5'7" 135# sexy, slim, smooth 908-8888

ASIAN PORN STAR

Hot, horny, handsome \$65in/\$85out E40


Handsome hung Italian 34, 160

CHOKO ON THIS!

Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs all top masc dominant real 10x7 gentle strength & arousing edge int'lgt, verbal, kink-2-vanilla outcalls/hottubs/travl Bay Area 415-256-6743 TomBuStonexxx@aol E43

SIZE 12 FEET- HOT- TOP

Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195# Scott (415) 790-0902 In/Out calls E40



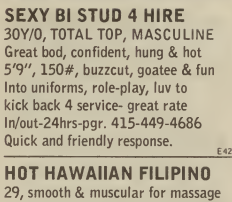
PIERCED 6'1" 155 TLC

9x6 TOP ATTRACTIVE in/out \$150 415.350.0501



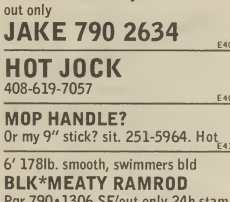
MARKO

AVAILABLE FOR IN AND OUT CALLS OCT 10-24 31yo, friendly, good-looking, great shape, 7x6.5, huge balls--9.5" around! See me at www.mark oxx.com or call 415-401-9378 E40



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30Y/O, TOTAL TOP, MASCULINE Great bod, confident, hung & hot 5'9", 150#, buzzcut, goatee & fun Into uniforms, role-play, luv to kick back 4 service- great rate In/out-24hrs-pgr. 415-449-4686 Quick and friendly response. E42



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5'6", 150LBS. BLUE EYES Outcalls only SF 948-6969 E40

HUNG BOYISH ORAL TOP

28yo, 5'9", 145 8 inches cut/ naturally hairless out only JAKE 790 2634 E40

HOT JOCK

408-619-7057 E40

MOP HANDLE?

Or my 9" stick? sit. 251-5964. Hot E41

6' 178lb. smooth, swimmers bld BLK*MEATY RAMROD Pgr 790-1306 SF/out only 24h stam E40

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Horny Spanish top, 9+"x6" uncut Out only/ Bay Area 415-902-0071 E41

Good looking, muscular coed BLOND CAL STUD 6', 190#, 9x6. Most scenes. 577-6685 E40

Hot x-smth Asian bottom 5'8", 140 swimr bdy bubl-butt also 4 bonds, fistsk, spankg etc. Joey 560-6353 E41

23yo br/br 5'8", 145 hairy swmbod HOT ITALIANBOY In/out call Julian 882-7388 E40

5'10", 150# smooth 8 thick cut inches HOT BLOND 22YO Cute tasty tight ass \$120 vers hot! 24hrs In/out Daron 415 540 3539 E40

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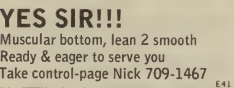
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Hot exotic young stud student hung x-big & athletic loves hot fantasy fun. Have sexy friend page for appt. 415-219-0726 E40

SEXY * LATINO * STUD

Hot 28, 5'9", 165, 8.5x6 cut lean muscular build. Top/vers. Passionate * sensual * friendly Out calls * Ray 415-307-3455 E41



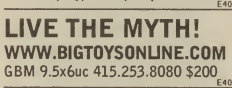
YES SIR!!!

Muscular bottom, lean 2 smooth Ready & eager to serve you Take control-page Nick 709-1467 E41



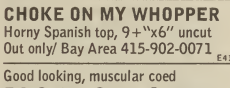
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ITALIAN & BLACK MIX Cute, masculine, eager to please Call Nino (510) 206-3202 out only E40



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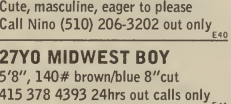
VERY HANDSOME LATINO

Willing to do anything for you 5'6", 150lbs. 27yo and looking forward to meeting you. (415) 346-0752 Carlos anytime. E41



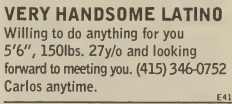
WANT IT ROUGH?

Lean smooth leather top, 32 gives it like you need it. Sling FF/SM/BD/WS/TT, slave training PAGE JACK-790-3312 E40



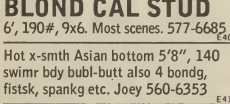
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5'8", 140# brown/blue 8"cut 415 378 4393 24hrs out calls only E41



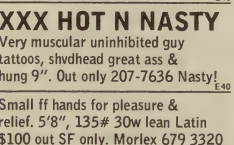
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Well hung Black top 540-9109 E41



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5'11", 160 lbs-beautiful butt Dark hairy/eyes-tan-sexy FRED 415 251-5985- OUT E40

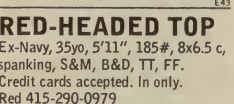
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HOT, LEAN, HORNY 26Y/O

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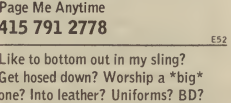
HOT, LEAN, HORNY 26Y/O

5'9", 150# versatile 948-3966--cell E40



HOT, LEAN, HORNY 26Y/O

5'9", 150# versatile 948-3966--cell E40




HOT, LEAN, HORNY 26Y/O

5'9", 150# versatile 948-3966--cell E40



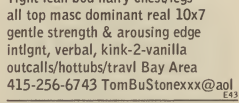
HOT, LEAN, HORNY 26Y/O

5'9", 150# versatile 948-3966--cell E40



HOT, LEAN, HORNY 26Y/O

5'9", 150# versatile 948-3966--cell E40



HOT, LEAN, HORNY 26Y/O

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DOMINANT
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HOT, HUNGRY, HORNY BOTTOM
Ale, 242-4230, 24hrs. in/out

Frat Boy Hunk

Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs
Deep throat and young jock ass.
5'9", 155#, 30" w, 8" 739-7312

20YO BLONDE

6ft 165 Smooth
Gym built and beautifully hung
Matt pgr: 560-7456

14 EEE

Foot fetish 837-6112

HORNY HARD & HUNG

Dominant, aggressive, verbal 35y/o
masculine, muscular 6' 190# stud.
Hairy pecs, big biceps, powerfull
legs & butt. Hard 8x6c. 207-9045

GOLD MEDALIST

The sculpted 6', 185# Ex Olympian
Smooth, defined, satisfaction2thecore.
Clean cut hot looks Out 310-2930

BLK HANDSOME STUD TOP

Very discreet and friendly
clean slim built with boyish
looks and well endowed also
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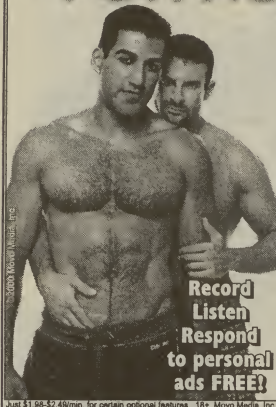
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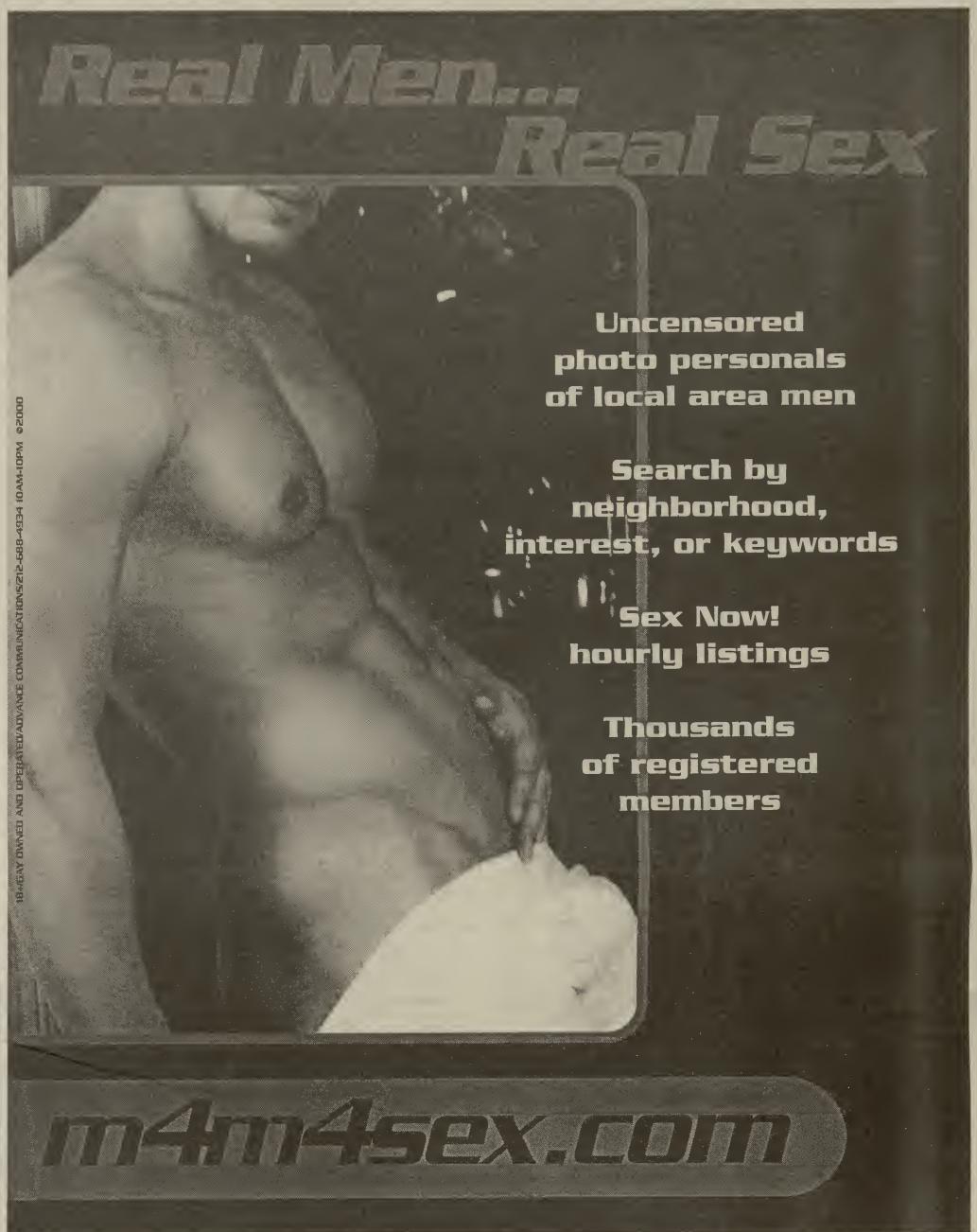
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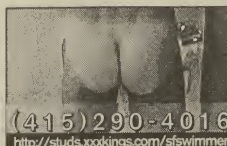
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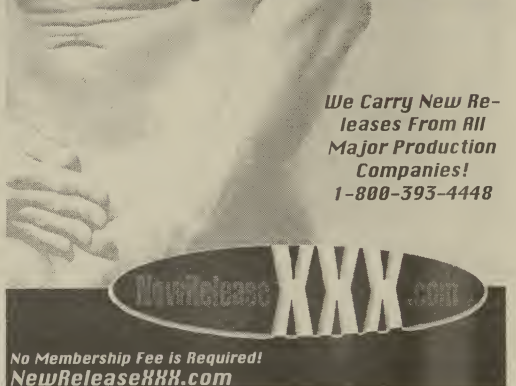
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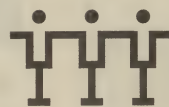
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